



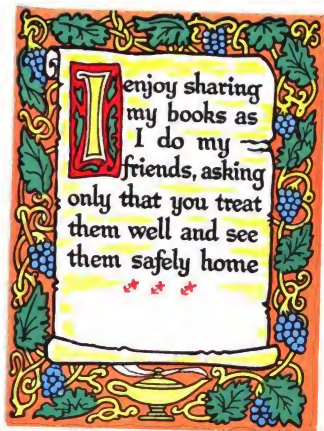




Presented to

J. Mayfield

June 1st 1950





A STANDARD HISTORY  
OF  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
WISCONSIN

An Authentic Narrative of the Past, with Particular  
Attention to the Modern Era in the Com-  
mercial, Industrial, Educational, Civic  
and Social Development.

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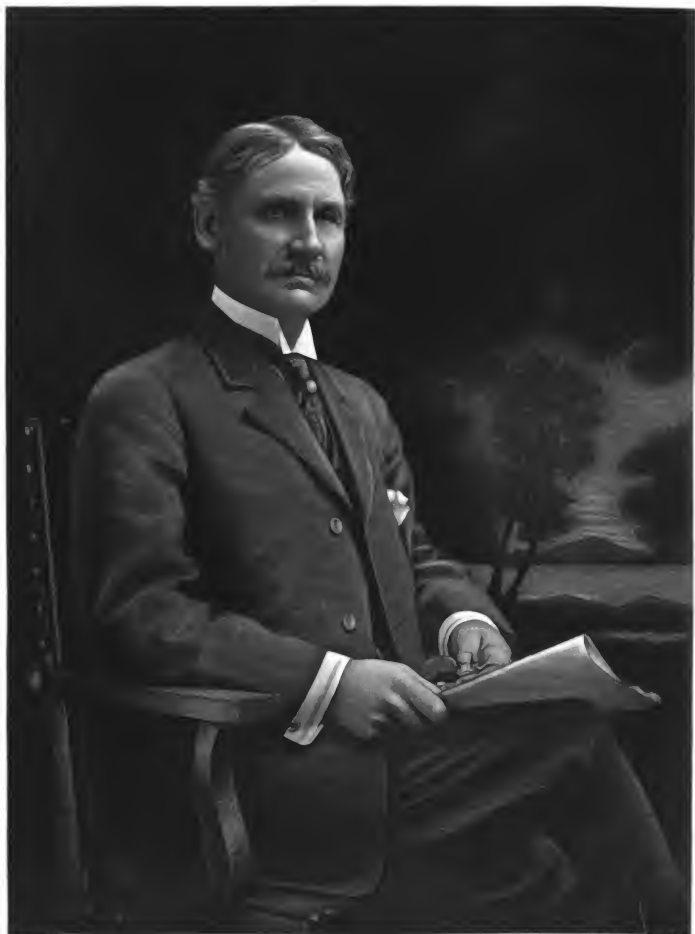
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# History of Portage County

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HAROLD JOHN WEEK, secretary and treasurer of the John Week Lumber Company, represents the third generation of a family that has been among those most prominently engaged in the lumber industry of Wisconsin. The family activities have also been a contribution to the industrial welfare of Stevens Point which continues in undiminished value to the present time. It is more than half a century since the business was founded by John Week, whose name it still bears, and it was more than thirty-five years ago that the principal center of the industry was established at Stevens Point.

In the History of Wisconsin, edited by Ellis Baker Usher the late John Week was called "One of the most successful and prosperous of the early pioneer business men of the Wisconsin River Valley." The sketch of his career as it appears in that publication has a very appropriate place in the history of Portage County.

He was born in Hardanger Parish, Norway, on December 6, 1818, one of a family of five sons and a daughter. His father was a descendant of Anders Anderson Riber, who came from Denmark and was ordained as Bishop of Ulvik in 1654. Bishop Riber built one of the first Protestant churches in Norway at Eidfjord, which still stands in a good state of preservation. The remains of that eminent churchman still rest beneath the floor of the church, they being the only ones thus signally honored.

Mr. Week had his own way to make in this world, and as a first step to that end he, together with his elder brother, Andrew Riber, set sail for America in 1839, arriving at Fall River, Massachusetts, on July 10th of that year. Thence he proceeded by stage, canal and sailing vessel to Chicago, which at that time was a very small city. For a season or two he was engaged in sailing on the Great Lakes, after which he went to the lead mining region of southern Wisconsin and engaged in the boot and shoe business at Wiotia and Dodgeville.

The lumber business, of which he was the executive head for so many years, was established in 1849, at which time he somewhat reluctantly purchased a small up and down water power saw mill located on the Big Eau Pleine River in Marathon County from his brother Andrew, who had conceived a great desire to migrate to California during the gold excitement. This saw mill was one of the first to be built in what is now known as Marathon County. The whole region thereabouts was a dense forest, without roads or means of transportation, and when Mr. Week moved his family to their new home he found it necessary to make the trip in an Indian dugout canoe from Du Beys Landing, a Hudson Bay Company trading post along the Wisconsin. Supplies he must needs bring from Stevens Point, 25 miles distant, making the trip by canoe in summer and by trail through the woods in winter. From 1851 to 1880 he continued to operate a

saw mill at this point, with a generous measure of success, rafting his lumber down the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers to market from Dubuque to St. Louis. During this period the saw mill was rebuilt and improved from time to time, so that in later years the mill had a capacity of several million feet per annum. One of the innovations introduced during this period was the installation of the first circular saw mill in that section of the country. During this period he also supervised the construction of some of the finest turnpike roads to be found in Marathon County.

In August, 1880, a great misfortune apparently overtook him in the destruction of his sawmill by fire, which precluded the possibility of sawing more than 6,000,000 feet of choice white pine logs lying in the mill pond that season. Unfortunately he carried no insurance, but what seemed to be a calamity proved to be a blessing in disguise, for had these logs been converted into lumber during that year and marketed on the Mississippi River in the usual way he would not have realized over \$7 per thousand feet at the mill. Owing to the decision not to rebuild, the logs were driven to Stevens Point for manufacture and the lumber shipped by rail, and by reason of the increase in the market value of lumber in the following year he was able to realize over \$17 per thousand feet at the mill, thus netting a clear gain of over \$60,000. From the time of the fire the business was transferred to Stevens Point, whither the family followed two years later, in the fall of 1882.

Of Mr. Week it is not too much to say he was one of the most prominent and highly esteemed men in the community in which he lived. During his earlier residence in Marathon County he served as one of the three commissioners of that county for over ten years, and later served continuously as a member of the County Board until his removal to Portage County. He was also active in securing good schools and whatever would promote the intelligence, prosperity and happiness of the community. During this time he was also one of the prime movers in the organization of the Wisconsin River Improvement Company and one of its directors for many years.

He was a man of great energy, integrity and strength of character, undaunted by obstacles and fruitful of resources, tempered also in those mild and genial characters which make friends and bind them to one another in the strongest bonds.

John Week died on the fourth day of June, 1891, survived by a widow and seven children. On February 29, 1848, he married Gunild Nelson Luraas. She died August 25, 1916. To them were born ten children, two of whom died in infancy, and one, Eva C., in young womanhood in 1880. During the last five years of his life John Week relinquished the management of his business to his sons and to that end incorporated the John Week Lumber Company, with Nelson A. Week as president, Edmund R. Week as vice president, and the late Andrew R. Week as secretary and treasurer. Besides these three sons the other surviving children were: Sarah A., who married Theophilus Gribsi; Cora A., a resident of New York City and a devotee of the Fine Arts; Martha G., a resident of Stevens Point and a graduate of the Wisconsin State University; and John Arthur, who formed his principal business connections on the Pacific Coast and resides at Los Angeles, California.

Nelson Albert Week, who became president of the John Week Lumber Company, was born at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, July 14,



*N A Week*



*[Handwritten signature]*





1853. He finished his education at Ripon College and Lawrence College, Appleton, Wisconsin, and soon after attaining manhood went with his father in the lumber industry. Among other connections he is a director of the Citizens National Bank of Stevens Point. In April, 1881, he married Miss Ida Youmans, who was born at Springville, Wisconsin, May 14, 1858, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Youmans, who came from New York by way of the Great Lakes in 1855 and settled in Portage County. Jotham Youmans was a direct descendant of Barnabas Horton, an Englishman, who was one of the first Long Island settlers. Nelson A. Week and wife had three sons: John Elmer, who graduated from Armour Institute at Chicago and died in Mexico; Harold J.; and Albert N., also deceased.

Harold John Week was born on February 29, 1884, at Stevens Point, and was given all the early advantages that a family of wealth and substantial position could procure. He attended the Chicago Manual Training School in 1899-1900, the Stevens Point Normal in 1901, the St. John's Military Academy from 1902 to 1903 at Delafield, Wisconsin, and from 1903 to 1907 was a student of the University of Wisconsin.

He early took a part in the lumber business of the family, but in 1912 removed to San Benito in the Rio Grande district of Southern Texas and for five years operated a ranch. For three years of that time he also worked in the San Benito Bank and Trust Company. In the summer of 1917 Mr. Week returned to Stevens Point and resumed an active official connection with the John Week Lumber Company as secretary and treasurer and director. He is also a stockholder and director in the First National Bank of Stevens Point. Mr. Week in 1911 was secretary of the Police and Fire Commission of Stevens Point.

Fraternally he is affiliated with Stevens Point Lodge No. 641, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, is a member of the Delta Tau Delta college fraternity at Madison, and is a York Rite Mason but still retains his membership in the Masonic bodies of Texas, including San Benito Lodge No. 1064, Free and Accepted Masons, San Benito Chapter No. 366, Royal Arch Masons, Brownsville Commandery, Knights Templars, at Brownsville, and Alzarfar Temple of the Mystic Shrine at San Antonio. Mr. Week is a member and vestryman of the Episcopal Church. He is a member and director of the Civics and Commerce Association of Stevens Point; a member of the Rotary Club of Stevens Point, a member of the Milwaukee Athletic Club, elected a member of the Assembly November 5, 1918, and was active in the organization of Company M, Ninth Regiment, Wisconsin State Guards.

October 29, 1910, at Wilmette, Illinois, Mr. Week married Miss Josephine Allen, who was born at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, April 9, 1883, daughter of Dwight S. and Delia (Sherman) Allen. Her father died in 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Week had three children: Jeanne Josephine Week, born September 9, 1912, and died July 7, 1913; Lolita Week, born January 15, 1916, and John Nelson Week, born July 14, 1918.

ANDREW RIBER WEEK, through whose death in Los Angeles, California, on August 2, 1917, Portage County sustained a heavy loss to its citizenship, was a man whose life and work had contributed in a very wide way to the development of Central Wisconsin. As pioneer,

lumberman, manufacturer, banker, citizen and friend, he was esteemed for his practical resourcefulness and broad civic interests, no less than for his wide intelligence and integrity.

Mr. Andrew R. Week was born in Koshkonong, Dane County, Wisconsin, April 5, 1857, the son of John and Gunhild (Nelson Luraas) Week. His early education was received in the rural schools in his home locality, and he afterward attended the Whitewater Normal School, 1873-1874, and the University of Wisconsin, 1874-1876, during the presidency of John Bascom. His father, Mr. John Week, whose story is told elsewhere in this issue, bought a sawmill on the Big Eau Pleine River in Marathon County in 1840, and, through early association with his father in this enterprise Mr. Week grew up in the lumber and logging business.

The Week Mill on the Eau Pleine, which was one of the first to operate in this section of the state, burned in 1880, and the Week interests were removed to Stevens Point, in which city Mr. Week made his home. In 1884 the John Week Lumber Company was incorporated, and Mr. Andrew Week elected secretary, treasurer and manager, in which capacity he served until his death.

It had been freely predicted that the lumbering industry in Central Wisconsin must come to an end many years ago. It is a unique commentary upon the resourcefulness of Mr. Andrew R. Week that the John Week Lumber Company has been able, down to the present, to run, year after year, at full capacity, a strong, progressive institution. Although his business interests were large, every detail of their conduct was within the grasp of Mr. Week who was a tireless worker and a man of uncommon business sagacity and foresight.

Through his early connection with the lumber industry and the position he held in the Week Company he was instrumental in organizing the Northwestern Hemlock Manufacturers Association, and the first meeting for formulating rules for the uniform grading of Hemlock was held in the offices of the John Week Lumber Company in Stevens Point. Lumbermen from all over the country came to know Mr. Week, and to place strict confidence in his honor and judgment, so that he was called to serve the association for two years as its president and for seven years as treasurer. Mr. Week was also secretary of the Stevens Point Boom Company, which during the years of its existence handled billions of feet of lumber.

Mr. Week's interests in the business world were not confined to the lumbering industry. In 1893 he was chosen president of the First National Bank of Stevens Point, which office he held continuously for twenty years, until his death. He was one of the organizers of the Coye Furniture Company, serving for many years on the board of directors of that concern. Outside of his home community Mr. Week also had extensive business interests in Spokane, Washington, and in Chicago, being president of the General Briquetting Company of Chicago.

The affairs of the business world were by no means the sole scope of Mr. Week's energies. He read much and traveled widely, both in his own country and abroad. His keen intelligence and his democratic spirit made him welcomed and respected by all who met him. His interest in education and civic betterment is demonstrated by his long service as president on the city school board of Stevens Point, and by his service on the library board of that city, especially during the

period when the Carnegie Library was erected. The sum of \$5,000 was bequeathed by him to the library for books and \$2,000 for bronze lamps to complete the library entrance, this being the first large public bequest to be received by the city. He was also a member of the board of trustees of Carroll College, Waukesha, Wisconsin, and gave a substantial sum to the college at his death.

Mr. Week attended, and was a generous contributor to the Presbyterian Church. He was prominent in Masonic circles, being a thirty-second degree Mason, he had served as eminent commander of Crusade Commandery No. 17, Knights Templars, at Stevens Point, and was a member of the Mystic Shrine. In Chicago he had membership in the Illinois Athletic Club. Politically Mr. Week was a republican, and, although he never sought political preferment, he was twice elected a member of the board of supervisors of Portage County.

For some time before his death Mr. Week had suffered failing health. He went to California in the spring of 1916, hoping to recuperate. It was there he died, at the home of his sister, Mrs. Theophilus Gribi, in Hollywood, a suburb of Los Angeles.

Mr. Week's varied, useful and distinguished career has left its ineffaceable mark on the institutions and progress of Central Wisconsin, "graven not upon stone, but upon the hearts of men." He was sincerely mourned by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, but nowhere will his loss be so irreparable as within his own family, the members of which have experienced so much of benefit from his unflinching good will, his sagacity and his untiring effort.

**HON. GILBERT L. PARK.** Portage County probably never had a citizen once better loved and more highly esteemed for his varied accomplishments and services than the late Gilbert L. Park, pioneer member of the bar, gallant soldier and officer in a Wisconsin regiment during the war, and at one time judge of the Circuit Court, including Portage County.

Judge Park was born August 31, 1825, at Scipio, Cayuga County, New York, and died June 5, 1884, before he was sixty years of age. His life was comparatively brief, but was crowded with experience and achievement. He was of English ancestry, his grandfather, Joel Park, having served as a soldier in the war of the Revolution and being present at the surrender of General Burgoyne's army. Judge Park was a son of Elisha and Sarah (McDowell) Park. His father was a New York State farmer. The son had rather liberal educational advantages for the time in which his boyhood was spent. He had an ardent temperament, was fond of adventure and experience, and at the age of fifteen he ran away from home to enlist in a service which at that time promised probably a greater range of adventure and thrilling experience than was possible in any other direction. He joined a party of employes of the Hudson's Bay Company and with them went up the Ottawa River in Canada toward Hudson Bay. He went as far north in the wilderness as Port Churchill on the River Severn and became thoroughly acquainted with that motley army of Indians, half breeds, French Canadians and recruits from all the nations who found a source of livelihood and satisfaction of their venturesome spirit in the task of gathering furs and carrying on the other complicated business of the Hudson's Bay Company. At the end of a year he returned south by way of Georgian Bay, where he

left the company's employ and was carried on a steamboat to Detroit and thence to Port Dover in County of Norfolk, Upper Canada, now Ontario, where his father's family had in the meantime settled. Content to remain at home for a time, he spent three years in an academy at Millville, Orleans County, New York. Returning to Canada, he found employment as a lumberman and for two years kept up the business with a promising degree of success. In 1848 he had the misfortune to lose a large raft of logs, representing practically all his capital and the savings of previous years. This raft was broken up on Lake Erie, and nearly every stick of timber floated down over the falls of Niagara. While he was not the type of man to become discouraged, this disaster made it disadvantageous for him to continue in the lumber business for a time, and he then applied himself in another direction. Taking up the study of law at Kalamazoo, Michigan, he was in the office of Hon. N. A. Balch of that place, and in September, 1851, was admitted to the Michigan bar in Kalamazoo County.

Judge Park came to Wisconsin in November, 1851. Having no money, so that he was unable to wait for practice to accumulate, he earned his living by a trade with which he was thoroughly familiar, cutting saw logs. By the summer of 1852 he was able to take up law practice and formed a partnership with James S. Albin at Plover, which was then the county seat of Portage County. This partnership continued until 1855. As one of the pioneer lawyers of Northern Wisconsin, he rapidly accumulated a large business and was in line for public honors. In 1854 he was elected district attorney of Portage County, and filled that office four years. In 1855 he had removed to Stevens Point and established an office in that city. After leaving the office of district attorney he was elected mayor of Stevens Point, and at the outbreak of the war, being a "war democrat," he resigned this civil office to take up the sword in defense of the integrity of the Union. He went out as adjutant of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry and subsequently became captain of Company G in that regiment. He was with the regiment in all its various marches, campaigns and battles through a period of nearly 3½ years, and the record of the regiment is largely that of his own participation in the war. He was in the siege of Vicksburg, the battle of Corinth, at Lookout Mountain, the Atlanta campaign, and while never wounded experienced many narrow escapes. At one time his horse was shot from under him. At another time a bullet struck his scabbard and broke a portion of the sword blade.

In the spring of 1865 Judge Park returned to Stevens Point and resumed his interrupted practice of law. Though so thoroughly a practical man, fond of out of doors and the play of physical forces, he was at the same time a close and diligent student, and perfected himself in a knowledge of law such as few of his contemporaries possess. He was successful both as an advocate and as counsel, though probably excelling somewhat as a counsellor.

On March 1, 1875, Governor Taylor appointed him judge of the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Wisconsin to fill a two year vacancy, and in the following April he was elected by the people, and in 1878 was re-elected for the full term. Owing to ill health he was obliged to resign the office in 1883. He had been in ill health for some time,

sought restoration by travel in California, but in January, 1884, still suffering from an acute stage of Bright's disease, he became a patient in the sanitarium at Waukesha, where he passed away in the following June. But he had already distinguished himself in the legal profession in Northern Wisconsin, and his record can never be lightly esteemed in the annals of the Portage County bar. He was a man of fine mind, of unusual resources of speech and pen, and had that personal integrity which caused people to trust him and confide in him any position of responsibility and trust. As a judge he has been described as "cool, clear headed, candid and logical; he presided with ease and dignity, and with the utmost fairness and impartiality. As an evidence of his popularity it may be mentioned that while serving in the army he was nominated, without his knowledge or consent, and run by his party for state senator on two or three occasions. He was also urged to bring himself forward as candidate for the lieutenant governorship of Wisconsin and also for member of Congress." Judge Park was an active member of the Masonic order, both a Knight Templar and thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason.

Judge Park married February 26, 1856, Miss Mary D. Beach, daughter of John and Anna (Waterhouse) Beach. Three children were born to them: Byron B., present judge of the same circuit over which his father presided; Gilbert L., a Stevens Point lawyer; and Anna, of Stevens Point. The mother of these children died November 9, 1893, and she and her husband rest side by side. Mrs. Park was a Methodist.

From a previously published appreciation the following is quoted: "He was an ardent student and lover of nature and nature's God, and, as described by one who knew him well, was a man who saw something beautiful in every phase and form of life; one who was the delight of every social group—young or old; one whose smile would lighten a household, one whose frown would cause a pang; the quiet ease, the social converse, the varied learning—all were his, and no one ever sat in his company without feeling disquieted at his departure; he was never boisterous, never rude, and always mindful of the feeling of others. In domestic life he was a lovable character, a kind husband and loving father, and true friend to his children."

**BYRON B. PARK.** Sixty years ago the little group of lawyers who comprised the bar of Portage County welcomed an important addition to their number in the person of the late Judge Gilbert L. Park. His distinguished record as a member of the bar for the next thirty years has been recited on other pages. Practically continuous since 1852 the name Park has been identified with the local bar, the entry of Byron B. Park into the profession being about the time his father was called to the Great Tribunal by the summons of death.

In respect of official positions the career of Byron B. Park is a modern duplicate of that of his father. Byron B. Park was born in Stevens Point October 6, 1858. He was educated in the famous "Old White School" and in the fall of 1876 entered the University of Wisconsin, where he continued his studies until graduating from the law department in 1881. He did not begin his practice immediately at Stevens Point, and in fact was formally enrolled as a lawyer of that bar only after his father's death in 1885. He soon

had a successful practice, and from time to time his fellow citizens called upon him to serve in public offices. He was city attorney of Stevens Point, mayor of the city, district attorney of Portage County, and August 23, 1911, was called from the ranks of lawyers to the bench of the Seventh Judicial Circuit by appointment. Since then he has been elected twice, and appointed to finish the term of Judge Webb, deceased. He is rendering a splendid service in his judicial office. For several years Judge Park served as a member of the Board of Regents of Normal Schools. Since 1897 he has been president of the Stevens Point Library Board.

Judge Park resides at 904 Clark Street. The old homestead, where for so many years his honored father lived, is at 830 Clark Street, and is now occupied by Gilbert L. Park, Jr. Judge Park married September 29, 1886, Bertha N. Wyatt, of Stevens Point. They have four children. Gladys, the oldest, is the wife of Ross E. Joy. Lawrence W., formerly a practicing dentist at Stevens Point, has recently been appointed first lieutenant in the Dental Reserve Corps and assigned to the Three Hundred Twenty-Fifth Machine Gun Battalion; Lyman B., who also inherits the martial enthusiasm of his grandfather, is serving with the rank of second lieutenant in Battery E of the One Hundred Twentieth Field Artillery, National Army. Both are now in active service in France. The youngest child, Allan L., is a senior in the Stevens Point High School.

GEORGE EDWARD McDILL. For many years the late George Edward McDill was one of Portage County's most prominent citizens, interested alike in large business enterprises and a leader in political life. He belonged to one of the pioneer families of the state and was born April 16, 1856, at Plover in Portage County, Wisconsin. His parents were Thomas Haseltine and Mary Ruth (Harris) McDill.

Thomas Haseltine McDill was a maker of history in Wisconsin. He was born in July, 1815, in Crawford County, Pennsylvania, and from there came to Wisconsin in 1840, settling in the hamlet of Mill Creek, Portage County, when there were not more than 300 white inhabitants north of Portage City to the frontier. This was eight years before Wisconsin became a member of the Union. For two years Mr. McDill followed lumbering, the forests at that time covering a large part of the entire country, and built the first sawmill on Eau Claire River, near Wausau. By 1844 many other lumber workers came to this section and Mr. McDill sold his sawmill in order to engage in a hotel business for their accommodation, largely, at that time and erected an inn at Plover. His business capacity and reliability received recognition in 1847 when Governor Dodge appointed him sheriff of Portage County and in 1848, when political organization was effected, he was elected to the office and served until 1856, when he became county treasurer. From then on until 1867, when he was first elected to the General Assembly, he served in responsible positions, was chairman of the town board of Plover, for eight years was chairman of the county board of supervisors and for several years was county judge. As a member of the State Legislature his statesmanship was appreciated, as was evidenced by his re-election in 1871-1870 and 1880.

From 1850 to 1870 Mr. McDill carried on a general mercantile business at Plover, in partnership with Alexander Stuart McDill, his

brother, who represented that district in Congress in 1873. In 1864 the brothers purchased a sawmill and water power on the Plover River, at the present site of the Village of McDill, and added lumbering to their other business ventures. In 1870 the brothers sold their store at Plover and Thomas H. McDill moved to the village that had been named in his honor and there continued to be interested in lumbering until his death, which occurred in 1889. During the Civil war he had been very useful to the government as an official with the rank of captain, attached to the quartermaster's department. He married Mary Ruth Harris, who was a daughter of Jonathan Harris and a grand-daughter of Col. John Harris, of Revolutionary fame. She was born near Mansfield, Ohio, February 29, 1826, and died at McDill, Wisconsin, in 1881.

George Edward McDill was a student in the public schools at Plover until 1871, in which year he received an appointment as messenger on the floor of the House at Madison, of which at that time his father was a member and when the late Governor Smith was speaker. In the fall of 1872 he entered Lawrence University, at Appleton, Wisconsin, and while there was a schoolmate of Hon. W. S. Stroud, formerly mayor of Portage City, and of Attorney General Mylrea. In a competitive examination for appointment as a cadet at the West Point Military Academy, made at Stevens Point in 1873, Mr. McDill came off with flying colors and received the government appointment and in June, 1873, entered the academy. He remained there until 1876 and then resigned in order to enter business life, for which he felt himself better fitted than the military.

After a short course in a business college Mr. McDill in 1877 was appointed steward and purchasing agent of the State Hospital for the Insane at Madison, Wisconsin, which position he filled exceptionally well and remained until 1880. In that year he became associated with his father in the sawmill and lumber business at McDill. In 1885 he erected a flouring mill there, which was operated continuously until it was destroyed by fire some years later. In 1893, with other capitalists, he organized the Citizens National Bank at Stevens Point, with a paid up capital of \$100,000, and he continued cashier of that bank continuously until his death on February 19, 1905. He was also president of the State Bank of Wild Rose, Wisconsin, and one of its directors, and additionally was manager of the Racine Knitting Mills, of Stevens Point.

In the environment in which he was reared it could not be otherwise than that Mr. McDill should become early interested in politics and from early manhood until his decease he was a loyal and zealous republican. He served successively as chairman of the town board of Plover and of the county board of supervisors, and the confidence reposed in him by his party was illustrated by his appointment as chairman of the Republican County Committee and subsequently of the Republican State Central Committee. Many public offices were tendered him and on April 20, 1897, he was appointed resident regent of the Normal School Board by Governor Schofield, and this appointment was considered of so much importance that the Senate, then in session at Madison, suspended rules to confirm him and he took his seat on the same day. He was one of the most useful members of the library board at Stevens Point and was ever interested in forward movements in city, county and state, freely contributing time, influ-



ence and capital to worthy enterprises. He was a member of the vestry of the Episcopal Church at Stevens Point. All his life, he took pride in the fact that he could claim membership in the Patriotic Order of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Mr. McDill was married in October, 1879, to Miss Alice Babcock, who survives and is one of the best known and most highly esteemed residents of Stevens Point, a leader in social activities and club movements, and one of the organizers of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, and was vice president of the same in her congressional district for two years. Mrs. McDill was born at Faribault, Minnesota, and was graduated from Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois, in the class of 1877.

There are few residents of Wisconsin who can claim a more distinguished ancestry than Mrs. McDill. On the paternal side the line reaches to and includes names familiar to every student of English history: John Dryden, poet, dramatist and translator; Sir John Cope, whose military exploits in 1745 as a British officer have been the basis for song and story, and still farther back, even to Anne Hutchinson, the famous woman religious enthusiast, who was a leader and teacher at Boston, Massachusetts, in 1634 and in 1643 suffered death from savage Indians in Northern New York.

On the maternal side her ancestry includes such names as the Howlands, the Kirbys and the Allens, of New Bedford, Massachusetts. She is a lineal descendant of William White and his wife, Susannah Fuller, who came to the Plymouth colony on the Mayflower. Susannah Fuller was a sister of Dr. Samuel Fuller, who was the first physician in Plymouth harbor, and she was the first widow, the first bride and the first mother of a native born governor of Massachusetts. To her first marriage one son, Peregrine White, was born in Plymouth harbor. William White died in the "first sickness," and shortly afterward she became the bride of Governor Edward Winslow, and their son, Josiah Winslow, also became governor. Mrs. McDill therefore has very just claims to membership in the organizations of a patriotic character that preserve the invaluable old records, with much of the spirit of the noble men and women who were the real founders of America. She is a member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants, of the Massachusetts Society of Colonial Dames of America, and of the Daughters of the American Revolution. On February 20, 1897, she was appointed regent at large of this organization, and later was regent of the Stevens Point chapter of the order, which she mainly organized. She was one of the founders of the Woman's Club at Stevens Point and has always been active in its work as a local organization and as a factor in the State Federation. She represented her congressional district on a correspondence bureau which was formed to create sentiment for the state federation of women, and when the State Federation of Women's Clubs became a fact she was elected vice president of her district and served faithfully for two years. In numerous other ways Mrs. McDill has labored for the general good and for the emancipation of her sex. She was one of a committee of six from her club who collected approximately the sum of \$5,000, which was expended in purchasing the site on which the beautiful public library of Stevens Point now stands. During the fourteen months of its existence she has been president of the Portage County Traveling Library Board. With all these numerous outside duties Mrs. McDill has been

active in everything pertaining to the Episcopal Church, of which she is a member, and has dispensed charity and offered hospitality for years as her position in society may demand. Above all she has been the careful, loving and sympathetic mother of children.

To Mr. and Mrs. McDill three children were born: Genevieve Stilson, Caryl Emma and Allan Conover. The second daughter, Caryl Emma, was born at McDill in 1883 and died there in 1885.

Genevieve Stilson McDill was born at Madison, Wisconsin, in 1880. She was first graduated from the Oakland Grammar School, Chicago, and afterward from the high school of Stevens Point. A full course in the State Normal School here followed, when she entered the University of Wisconsin and subsequently Columbia University, New York City, from which she was graduated with the M. A. degree, and she retains membership in the Delta Gamma Sorority. A period of European travel still further broadened her mind and added to her accomplishments. Miss McDill has been a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota, for some years, devoting her self to work in the educational field and is teacher of English and room principal in the East High School in that city.

Allan Conover McDill was born at McDill, Wisconsin, in 1888, and after the family removal to Stevens Point, entered the kindergarten department of the State Normal School here, of which institution his father was made regent on the day of opening. He continued in that school until he completed the entire course and also finished the Latin-German courses, then for two years afterward taught school, and during one summer was assistant to Rev. G. F. Nason, of New York City, who was a director of the American Travel Club, and he put in three months of travel in Europe for this enterprise. Mr. McDill spent one year at Chicago University in the School of Commerce, and then entered the wholesale hardware firm of Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Company, of Chicago. After a year he went to Columbia University graduating from there in 1916. He was a member of the Theta Delta Chi Fraternity, and of the Glee and Mandolin clubs. Mr. McDill was an instructor for some time after graduation, and then became connected with the Chase National Bank of New York City. On May 20, 1918, Mr. McDill entered the services of the United States Army and later was recommended for the Central Officers' Training Camp, Atlanta, Georgia, where he now is. Of sound education and good understanding that enables him to view things with a clear and proper perspective, Mr. McDill possesses many of the essential qualities which belonged to his long line of notable ancestors.

VINCENT J. SHIPPY, M. D. One of the able professional men and patriotic citizens of Stevens Point is Dr. Vincent J. Shippy, a general medical practitioner, and also a commissioned lieutenant in the Medical Reserve Corps of the United States Army.

Of the great body of young men who find themselves faced at the end of their public school course with the desirability or the necessity of choosing a life career, comparatively few turn to the profession of medicine and surgery. Its adoption would mean continued years of study and the hardest kind of work afterward, with indefinite financial recompense, and with but little certain chance for fame, even though heroic deeds might be demanded any day. To the average young man, therefore, this profession does not look inviting. To the minority,

however, no other career seems possible or worth while, and with high heart and noble impulse the would-be healer of his fellow men starts on a path wherein, if his spirit does not quail, his own strength or resources do not give way and his enthusiasm lasts, he finally gains his right to safeguard with his knowledge and skill those who call upon him, even though some may forget that there must, of necessity, be also a material and practical business basis to assure his continued usefulness. As a profession that of medicine is one of arduous labor and of amazing self-sacrifice, of humanitarian intent and kindly purpose, and the stupendous work it does, both in peace and war, must arouse a feeling of admiration in every one. The physicians in a community will ever be found in the vanguard of progress.

Vincent J. Shippy was born in Hull Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, January 30, 1889. His parents were John and Josephine (Krygrier) Shippy, both of whom were born in Poland. The mother of Doctor Shippy accompanied her parents to the United States in 1855. They settled first at Dunkirk, New York, from which place they came to Portage County, Wisconsin, where they spent the rest of their lives, the maternal grandmother of Doctor Shippy surviving until 1914 and passing away when aged ninety-one years. The paternal grandparents were very early settlers also in Portage County and died here. The parents of Doctor Shippy were married in Hull Township and the father was engaged for a number of years in farm pursuits and then became somewhat prominent in politics, served efficiently in numerous local offices and then was elected county register of deeds, after which he resided at Stevens Point, where he was interested in a grocery business. His death occurred here in 1904, at the age of fifty-two years. The mother of Doctor Shippy resides with her son Casimir, who is a Catholic priest at Flintville, Wisconsin. There were eleven children in the family and the following survive: Vincent J., Casimir, Mary, Frank and Catherine. All were reared in the Polish Catholic Church.

Vincent J. Shippy attended both the parochial and public schools at Stevens Point and in 1908 was graduated from the city high school and then entered Marquette Medical College, Milwaukee, from which institution he was graduated in 1912. He spent the next two years gaining valuable experience as an interne in St. Mary's Hospital at Green Bay, Wisconsin, and thus prepared returned to Stevens Point and in 1914 opened his office at No. 117½ North Second Street. Aside from a substantial private practice which he has already built up Doctor Shippy is engaged as examining physician for the Catholic Order of Foresters, and is one of the active and earnest members of the county and state medical societies. He belongs to St. Peter's Church Society and to the Polish Alliance. He was one of the first to respond to the call for physicians in the World War, has a commission as a first lieutenant in the Medical Reserve Corps, and skillfully and willingly did his part both in the United States and beyond the sea.

GEORGE W. FLEMING. Among the representatives of pioneer families of Portage County, whose members have assisted in subduing the wilderness and developing this section into a land of plenty and prosperity, one who has been an active factor in agriculture as well as in financial circles is George W. Fleming. He has lived in Amherst sixty-one years, where he is president of the International

Bank. He has been active in the civic life of the community, and is thoroughly representative of his pioneer father, a man of sterling character and sturdy nature who was among the first to settle in this part of the county.

George W. Fleming was born in Eau Pleine Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, March 18, 1855, a son of William V. and Carolina (Wylie) Fleming, and comes of good Scotch ancestry. His paternal grandparents were Thomas and Rachel (Van Hart) Fleming, who in their later years came to Wisconsin to join their children, who had located at Amherst about the year 1855. These children were: Hannah, who became Mrs. William J. Rice; William V.; Maria, who became Mrs. Thompson; Amelia, who became Mrs. Rierson; Harriet, who married Robert Wilson; Phoebe, who married William Wilson; and Benjamin. The maternal grandparents of George W. Fleming were Daniel and Elizabeth (Jarvis) Wylie, the former of whom died in the East, following which his widow married her first husband's brother, Melancton Wylie, and subsequently they became early settlers of Portage County, where for many years they conducted the old Wylie Hotel, a well known stopping-place for the travelers of pioneer days.

William V. Fleming was born at Trenton, New Jersey, August 22, 1819, and as a young man went to Great Bend, Susquehanna County, New York, where he was married to Carolina Wylie, who had been born there. Together they made the journey to Illinois, but Mr. Fleming, who was a shingle weaver by trade, did not find conditions satisfying to him in the Prairie State and decided to seek another and newer field in which to gain his fortune. Accordingly, in 1845, he left his wife and child in Illinois and started out on foot for Portage County. His capital when he started was very small, and by the time he reached Plover it had dwindled down to the sum of fifty cents, but he perseveringly pushed on and eventually reached Stevens Point, where the only structure at that time was the log cabin occupied by Mr. Stevens. There he made a brief stop, and while resting saw several discouraged parties returning from the North, but subsequently saw several parties going in that direction, which made him undecided whether or not to continue his journey. Mr. Fleming lay down underneath a tree on the river bank to think things over. While he was not what is termed a well-educated man, having never gone to school, he was intelligent and practical and not inclined to be superstitious. However, he decided to leave matters to chance. Picking up a stick and letting it fall he went in the direction the stick pointed and accordingly continued his journey and located in the woods in what was Eau Pleine Township and now is the Town of Dewey. There he lived and made shingles for two years, and in the following fall was joined by his wife and one child. When she settled with her husband in the woods Mrs. Fleming was the only white woman between Wausau and Stevens Point.

As Mr. Fleming's finances became better he put up a sawmill on the Little Eau Claire River in the same township, and it was at this location that George W. Fleming was born. The mill was later known as the Peter Le Mieux Mill, and was conducted by William V. Fleming until 1855, at which time he removed with his family to Amherst Township, near the Village of Amherst. He squatted on this land, as it had never been surveyed, but subsequently entered it, this being

the first entry of land made in the township. There William V. Fleming passed the remaining years of his life in agricultural pursuits, developing a good property and becoming one of the substantial men of his community. His death occurred in 1887. He had been denied advantages in his youth, but possessed inherent abilities and the power of leadership, so that he was an influential man in his community. While he was still living north of Stevens Point, in the woods, he became a member of the first board of county commissioners, which at that time consisted of but three members, there being but three townships in the county. Later he was many times chairman of Amherst Township, and his fellow citizens showed their confidence in him by electing him to a number of other offices. He was always an active republican. He was active also in the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Amherst, the first church in the village, and for years was one of its mainstays. Mrs. Fleming, a devout Christian woman of many virtues, survived her husband until 1906, and died in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she had been a life member. She and her husband were the parents of five children: Mellicent, who died as the wife of W. W. Sherwin; Wilhelmina, who died as Mrs. D. A. Barton; Rachel, who became Mrs. A. Howes; George W.; and Carrie, who was born on the farm in Amherst Township, and who died as the wife of F. E. Purple.

The educational advantages secured by George W. Fleming were those afforded by the district schools of Amherst Township during the short winter terms, his summers being passed in assisting his father in clearing and developing the home farm. Later, with the elder man, he lumbered on the Wolf River for seven or eight years, and they were associated together in business at the time of William V. Fleming's death. George W. Fleming continued to follow the lumber business in connection with agriculture until about 1897, when he gave up the former to give all his attention to farming, in which he has made a signal success as a dairyman and potato grower. His 330 acres are finely cultivated, and have been improved by large and substantial buildings, attractive and well placed, while the latest machinery and equipment are used, and modern methods are the order of procedure. The present farm home was built in 1887, and Mr. Fleming resided therein until 1917, when he built his present handsome home in the Village of Amherst, into which he moved in the fall of that year. Mr. Fleming assisted in the organization of the International Bank at Amherst, the first and only bank of the village, and has been a member of the board of directors since its inception. He was the third man to become president, and has held that office for a considerable number of years. It has become known as one of the sound and reliable institutions of the county, and its patronage is large, particularly among the farming class.

Mr. Fleming was married December 21, 1882, to Miss Annie Carter, who was born at Berlin, Wisconsin, daughter of Enoch Chellis and Sarah Jane (Boss) Carter, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of New York State. Her parents were early settlers of Wisconsin, Mr. Carter first being a merchant at Berlin and later becoming the first telegraph operator at Fort Howard, where he was employed by the Northwestern Railway. He died at that point when his daughter was only three years of age. Mr. Carter was one of the prime movers in securing a telegraph line between Ripon and

Berlin, and the newspapers of that period were complimentary in their statements regarding his achievements in this direction. His wife survived him only five years. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Fleming were William E. and Caroline (Carpenter) Boss, the latter a native of England who came to the United States at the age of eleven years and met and married Mr. Boss in the East. During the '60s they came to Portage County, Wisconsin, and here died in the vicinity of Amherst, where they had been engaged in agricultural pursuits. Mrs. Fleming after the death of her parents lived with E. P. Royce of Escanaba, Michigan, until her marriage in 1882. To Mr. and Mrs. Fleming there was born one daughter: Eva-Ray, born January 14, 1887, married Garth W. Cate, son of A. G. Cate, and died at Phoenix, Arizona, August 13, 1910. She was born on the old home-stead farm, where she was reared, and received good educational advantages.

Mr. Fleming has always taken a good citizen's interest in public matters and has been a supporter of movements which have promised to be of benefit to his community. He has never been an office seeker, but as a man of intelligence, ability and substantiality has earned the confidence of his fellow-citizens, who have elected him to various local offices, and on several occasions he has acted in the capacity of township chairman. His record in office is an excellent one. Mr. Fleming's interest in fraternalism is evidenced by his thirty-five years of membership in the lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Amherst, and his like period of membership in the Masonic Lodge at Waupaca. During a long and uniformly successful career it has been his fortune to have made the most of the opportunities that have presented themselves and to utilize them in such a way as to bring credit upon himself, his community and the honorable name that he bears.

JOHN D. SWAN. Some of the oldest families of Portage County were members of the sturdy Scotch colony that went into what is now Lanark Township in pioneer times and made for themselves homes, developed the wilderness, and practiced the institutions and customs and religion of their forefathers.

A representative of this family is John D. Swan, now a retired resident of Stevens Point. He was born in Lanark Township October 8, 1858, a son of Thomas and Martha (McJennet) Swan. Thomas Swan was born at Lanark, Scotland, in 1811 and his wife in February, 1824. Thomas was a son of James and Janet Swan. The latter brought their family to America and settled at Lanark in Lower Canada in 1821. Thomas Swan grew up there, was married, and in 1847 came to Winnebago County, Wisconsin, and after a short time moved to what is now Lanark Township of Portage County, being one of the Scotch colonists who gave the name of their ancestral home to that locality. James Swan and wife also came to Portage County, and died in Lanark Township, the former at the age of ninety-one and the latter at ninety-three. Thomas Swan acquired 200 acres of Government land in the township, and his years were prospered and he always bore a fine name in the community. He died here in 1895 and his wife passed away December 25, 1888. He was a republican in politics, and like the other early Scotch colonists was an active member of the Presbyterian Church. In the family of Thomas and Martha Swan were the following children: James, deceased; Jane; Jennie;

Robert; Thomas, deceased; Thomas; Martha; Elizabeth, deceased; William; and John D.

John D. Swan grew up on the old homestead farm and had the advantages of the local schools during his youth. On reaching manhood he turned to farming as a vocation, and finally bought the old homestead from the other heirs and gained from its acres the prosperity which enabled him to retire in 1907 and move to Stevens Point. He finally sold the old homestead in 1913. At Stevens Point he owns a comfortable and roomy residence and also a good barn at 350 Water Street. He is a republican in politics and a Presbyterian.

April 17, 1884, John D. Swan married Miss Marian Owens. She was born in Lanark Township, Portage County, in 1863, daughter of James and Helen (Swan) Owens. Her parents came to Lanark Township from Lower Canada in 1856 and were substantial farmers in that locality the rest of their days. Her father died in 1907 and her mother in October, 1909. Mrs. Swan's father was a republican in politics, but finally gave his active allegiance to the prohibition cause. He was a Presbyterian. In the Owens family were four children, all living, named David, Marian, Thomas and Jennie.

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Swan have had two children: Dr. William Ray and Helen Elizabeth. The daughter was born October 22, 1890, was educated in the public schools of Lanark Township, attended the State Normal School at Stevens Point and also the Stevens Point Business College. Her death occurred on the 7th of May, 1918.

Dr. William Ray Swan was born on his father's farm in Lanark Township April 14, 1885. He had a farm training and in early life showed unusual disposition for the care and management of domestic animals. He had a public school education, graduating from Waupaca High School, and then entering the Chicago Veterinary College, from which he was graduated with the degree M. D. C. in 1908. He at once returned to Stevens Point and has made his services valuable to all the farmers and stock raisers in the surrounding territory and has a very successful practice. He married Miss Fannie Blaisdel. They have one daughter, Janet Dona, born September 22, 1915.

**JOHN G. ROSHOLT.** Located in the extreme eastern part of Portage County, practically on the Waupaca County line, is the thriving little community which bears the name of Rosholt, and which is now about fourteen years old. This village is the product of the brain and labor of the man whose name it bears, John G. Rosholt, who came to this locality thirty-two years ago, and who did not rest until he had achieved his goal, that of securing a railroad for this section and the establishment of a point of communication and a center of population. He has made a success of his operations and is now accounted one of the substantial men of the county, being connected with a number of important interests.

John G. Rosholt was born June 6, 1850, at Pine Lake, Wisconsin, and is a son of Jacob and Johanna Rosholt. He was but one year old when he accompanied his parents to Waupaca County, where they resided during the remainder of their lives, and the youth's education was secured in the public schools there. While being reared to manhood on the home farm he received his training in the arts of agriculture, but desired to see something more of the world than that part included in the home acres and accordingly left home and took up

lumbering. Gradually he drifted into the real estate business, and for some years resided at Scandinavia and in the northern part of Iola Township. In 1885 Mr. Rosholt moved over into Portage County and located in the community which now bears his name. There was plenty of timber in this region then and he began buying this up and converting it into lumber in a small sawmill which he had erected; but it was not long ere he had realized the opportunities and advantages of the region and set about formulating his plans for the establishment of a community. He early realized that a railroad was an absolutely necessary asset, and began to importune the roads to continue their tracks so as to include this point, but it was a number of years, in 1903, before he was able to accomplish his object. Thus his hard work and sacrifices brought about results, and what he had dreamed about became a reality. He sold all his timber with the conditions that the railroad would be put in at once, and in the year 1903 the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad built its line to this point, and Rosholt station was named in honor of the founder of the village in the year following.

In 1904 Mr. Rosholt, with his sons, was the organizer of the Rosholt State Bank, a sound financial institution, of which he has been president ever since its inception, and he is also president of the Wittenberg Citizens State Bank. Naturally he is proud of the village which bears his name, and is constantly working for anything that will result in its advantage or promote the welfare of its citizens.

FRANK PIERCE GUYANT. One of the best known names in the citizenship of Portage County is that of Guyant. For at least half a century the name has been identified with the farm life of the county. Within recent years two members of the family have held the office of sheriff, Frank Pierce Guyant and his son both having been thus officially honored. Frank P. Guyant owns one of the large and well ordered farms of Belmont Township, and aside from his early work as a woodsman and his service in official positions farming has been his steady vocation for a long period of years.

Mr. Guyant was born in Oswego County, New York, August 13, 1852. His paternal grandfather served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. His parents were Elbert and Loranna (Bordon) Guyant. His father was born in New York State in 1803 and his mother in Canada in 1813. Elbert Guyant by his first wife, a Miss Warner, had four children, named Gus, Octave, Hobart and James. Elbert and Loranna Guyant were married in Oswego County, New York, and in 1856 came west to Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. His wife died there in 1861 and he passed away in 1870. He was a carpenter and joiner by trade, but also had a farm in Fond du Lac County. He was a democrat in politics and a member of the Universalist Church. He and his second wife had four children, named Henry, Frank P., Bert and Edward.

Frank Pierce Guyant acquired his early education in the public schools of Fond du Lac County. When he was thirteen years old he left home and after that depended upon his own resources and industry to get ahead in the world. He came to Stevens Point in 1867 and for twelve years made his home with Jack and Moses Finch, well known citizens of that time. During those years he was engaged in the lumber woods and on the river as a lumber jack and



raftsman. In 1883 Mr. Guyant bought a farm of 240 acres where John Peterson now lives, and sold it ten years later. He then bought his present fine place in Belmont Township in sections 1, 2, 11 and 12. He has 200 acres, and a quarter a century of his ownership and management has sufficed to bring it into a splendid state of cultivation and improvement. He keeps a herd of high grade Holstein and Guernsey cattle and is still active in the harness as a farmer.

His political affiliation has always been with the democratic party, and his duties as sheriff occupied him at the county seat during 1907-08 and again during 1911-12. Since retiring from office he has devoted all his time and attention to his farm. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

October 31, 1878, Mr. Guyant married Miss Mary E. Bucknell. She was born in Winnebago County, Wisconsin, June 20, 1856, daughter of John and Jane (Housum) Bucknell. Her parents were born and married in England and came to the United States as their wedding trip. They lived in Winnebago County about three years and in 1856, shortly after the birth of their daughter Mary, moved to Waupaca County. Her father owned a good farm in that county and died there in 1914, at the age of eighty-four. John Bucknell was of long lived and very sturdy stock. His father died in England at the age of ninety. John Bucknell when eighty-three years of age husked 1,200 bushels of corn and thus his usefulness ended only with life itself. His wife died in 1900, at the age of seventy-nine. John Bucknell and wife had the following children: Joseph, of Waupaca County; Mary E.; Jennie, who married Edward Guyant, a brother of Frank P.; George, who is unmarried and lives on the old home farm in Waupaca County; Ann, who married William Kent, of Portage County and lives at Morrill, Nebraska; Alice, who is unmarried and lives with her brother George on the old farm; William, who also occupies part of the homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. Guyant are the parents of three children: Elma A., who was born August 13, 1879, was educated in the public schools and the Stevens Point State Normal, was a teacher for several years, and is now living with her parents, widow of Guy Lyons. She is the mother of three children, Hazel, Belma and Robert. Merrill Guyant, who was born April 29, 1882, had a public school education, and for ten years was under sheriff of Portage County, part of the time under his father and also under Sheriff Kubisak. Later he was elected and served as sheriff of the county during 1915-16, and is still living at Stevens Point. He married Alice Miller, formerly a trained nurse. Cole Franklin Guyant, the youngest of the family, was born July 27, 1889, was educated in the public schools of Belmont Township and married Bessie Sawyer, daughter of Mr. Don W. Sawyer. They have one child, Verna.

WARREN S. TAYLOR. For at least sixty years the fortunes of a number of the Taylor family have been identified with Portage County, and the name is not only one of the oldest but commands universal respect because of the honest work and splendid influence which have always been associated with the people of this name.

While not a native of the county Warren S. Taylor has lived here since early infancy and his affairs as a farmer has been prospered to

a high degree. His home is in Belmont Township, where the Taylors located in pioneer times.

He was born at Omro in Winnebago County, Wisconsin, February 4, 1856, and a few weeks later his parents, Albert and Maria (Day) Taylor, came to Belmont Township, Portage County, and erected their humble home of logs. This log house with some additional comforts was the family residence until the death of Mr. Taylor's mother in 1867. The old farm where the family settled is now owned by Walter Watson. Albert Taylor was born in Allegany County, New York, December 18, 1832, and his wife was born in the same state in 1831. They married there and in 1855 settled in Winnebago County, Wisconsin. Albert Taylor was a son of Riley and Rachel (Witherow) Taylor, who came to Belmont Township of Portage County about the same time as their son and spent the rest of their days here. Albert Taylor had brothers Charles, Luman, Truman and Ezra, and sisters Jane, Adeline and Helen, all of whom are residents of Belmont Township.

Albert Taylor rendered his country patriotic service as a Union soldier. In 1861 he enlisted in the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry. At the battle of Shiloh he was wounded and granted an honorable discharge. Later on recovering he re-enlisted in the Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry and was with that command in its various engagements until the close of the war. He was an honored member of the Grand Army Post, and was one of the early members of a lodge of Odd Fellows at Waupaca and later helped organize the lodge at Almond in this county. He was a loyal republican and for some years filled the office of township treasurer. He died October 21, 1891. By his first wife he had three children: Warren S.; Melvin, who died in 1883, at the age of twenty-four; and Myron, who died in 1862, aged one year one month and six days. For his second wife Albert Taylor married Hannah Sutherland, daughter of James Sutherland, and a pioneer of Portage County. By the second marriage there were six children: Rhoda, Myra and Myrtie twins, Ralph, Martha and Rachel.

Warren S. Taylor grew up on the old home farm and had a public school education. Farming has been his regular business in life for forty years. He acquired his first land, forty acres, in 1878. As his means and abilities increased he bought another eighty acres and now has a very complete and model farm, with a full equipment of buildings and good livestock, including some high grade Holstein cattle. He has been too busy with other matters to become a candidate for office, though he is a regular voter of the republican party. He is affiliated with Almond Lodge of Masons.

February 26, 1880, he married Miss Anna Eliza Hawes. She was born in Belmont Township December 29, 1860, a daughter of Lester L. and Mary (Robertson) Hawes. Her father was born in Vermont January 10, 1828. Her mother was born at Dunbartonshire, Scotland, November 13, 1835. They married in 1856 and on May 6, 1860, arrived as early settlers in Belmont Township. Her father not long afterward enlisted in the Civil war, in Company D of the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry. He went into the army in 1864 and was stricken with smallpox and died at St. Louis May 19, 1865. Mrs. Taylor's mother died December 8, 1906. She had three children, George, Anna Eliza and Alma, the latter the wife of John Casey of Belmont.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor became the parents of four children, and they lived to see them grow up and three of them are still living, both sons being very able and prosperous farmers. Blanche, the oldest, was born June 21, 1881, was married in 1904 to Earl Curtis, and she died without children January 7, 1906. The second child, Lottie, born June 19, 1883, is still at home with her parents. Martin, born April 2, 1886, is one of the young American farmers who have succeeded well in Western Canada. He now has 480 acres of farm land at Cereal in the Province of Alberta. Robert, the youngest child, born October 10, 1888, has a good farm in this county of ninety acres, and married Alice Smith of Belmont Township.

**HENRY VETTER.** One of the largest industrial concerns of Stevens Point is the Vetter Manufacturing Company, a planing mill and sash and door factory which furnishes labor to a large number of skilled operatives and for years has supplied large quantities of milled products, especially sash and doors, to the general trade. Some of the products are shipped far beyond the boundaries of Wisconsin.

The active men in this organization are members of the Vetter family. Henry Vetter is president, his son Herman A. is secretary and treasurer, and the son Carl Henry is vice president and superintendent.

Mr. Henry Vetter has been a resident of Portage County nearly half a century and is now almost retired from active business, having attained the age of four score. He was born in Germany April 20, 1838, son of John Gottlob and Marie Elizabeth (Schwartz) Vetter. His parents spent all their lives in the old country. His father was born September 16, 1801, and died in February, 1888, and the mother was born in 1802 and died in 1876. From this record it is seen that the Vetter family is naturally long lived and all of them have been people of great physical and mental vigor. The children of John G. Vetter and wife were: August, who died in Germany at the age of eighty-two; Ernest Gottlob, who died in Germany; a daughter who died when about five years of age; and Henry.

Henry Vetter was well educated in the old country, attending the German schools for about nine years. He also learned the mason's trade there. On April 16, 1869, he arrived at Castle Garden, New York, proceeding westward to Chicago and thence to Milwaukee, where he found his first regular employment at his trade during the summer. In the fall of 1869 Mr. Vetter arrived in Portage County. Here he bought forty acres of land in Sharon Township, but never got possession, since the land had been previously sold. In 1870 he established his home at Stevens Point, and for over a quarter of a century was one of the most reliable masons in the county. He finally retired from active work at his trade in 1897. In 1899 he and his wife enjoyed a trip back to the scenes of their early youth, and spent three months in Germany. Since then Mr. Henry Vetter has continued to live in Stevens Point and is nominally interested in business as president of the Vetter Manufacturing Company. Mrs. Henry Vetter died July 17, 1909. In politics Henry Vetter is a republican and a member of the Lutheran Church.

He married in Germany in 1861 Amalia Matilda Wigand. She was born in the old country March 5, 1836. To their marriage were born six children: Amalia Elizabeth, born November 20, 1862, and



*E. McLaughlin*

died February 9, 1863; Ernest August, born December 3, 1863, and died at Stevens Point February 24, 1871; Johanna Sophia, who was born September 28, 1865, and died at Stevens Point August 19, 1910, the wife of Michael Noller; Herman August; Carl Henry; and Emma Matilda, who was born May 19, 1875, was educated in the grammar and high schools of Stevens Point and by her marriage to John Battin has two daughters, Elizabeth and Helen. Mr. Henry Vetter, the father of these children, owns fifteen acres of land within the corporation limits of Stevens Point, and on that land on Prentiss Street he built a good home in 1914.

Herman August Vetter was born April 4, 1868, in Germany, and was a small infant when his parents came to America. He attended the public schools of Stevens Point, and when a boy went to work in a local factory. He was also employed by his father at the mason's trade. He early acquired practical experience in a sash and door factory, and sought better opportunities in this line in the far West. For a time he was at Spokane Falls, Washington, Seattle and Tacoma, and worked in sash and door factories in all these cities. In 1893 he returned to Stevens Point and soon afterward he and his brother Henry built a small plant for the manufacture of sash and doors on the site of their present business. They had limited capital, were both competent workmen, possessed courage and good business judgment, and their work was soon growing and prospering. In 1909 the firm erected a large plant 72 by 250 feet, and in 1915 they built additional equipment in the form of a warehouse 72 by 160 feet, five stories high, built of reinforced concrete. At the present time the Vetter Manufacturing Company employs about sixty hands.

In 1900 Herman A. Vetter married Miss Clara Biegler, of Stevens Point. They have four children: Frederick, May, Herman and Edwin. Mr. and Mrs. Vetter reside at 730 South Division Street.

Carl Henry Vetter, vice president and superintendent of the Vetter Manufacturing Company, was born in Stevens Point January 6, 1873. After leaving school he learned the mason's trade, and in 1894 joined his brother in the business of manufacturing sash and doors. He and his family reside at 702 Church Street. He married in 1899 Miss Anna Lee, of Stevens Point. Their three children are Carl Henry, Dorothy and Donald.

EDWARD MCGLACHLIN. Both the publishers and the patrons of this work have many years to be grateful to Edward McGlachlin for the service he has rendered and the interest he has shown in the compilation of the "History of Portage County" in his capacity as one of the supervising editors. For the benefit of the present generation it is probably superfluous to tell who Mr. McGlachlin is, and yet in expressing this appreciation for his helpfulness it is appropriate that some brief outline of his career should be set down as a permanent record.

Mr. McGlachlin is a Wisconsin man of sixty years residence, and his experience as a printer, newspaper editor and publisher has been almost continuous through this period. He was born at Watson in Lewis County, New York, December 19, 1840. His grandfather was a native of Scotland, but left that country and settled in America in time to participate as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He was drowned in the St. Lawrence River. Ephraim McGlachlin, father

of the Stevens Point editor, was a native of Montgomery County, New York, and married Eunice Fenton, a native of Lewis County. Her ancestors came from Massachusetts, and she was a distant relative of Reuben Fenton, one of the Civil war governors of New York.

The memories of Mr. McGlachlin's boyhood center around a typical rural community in Western New York. He could attend the district schools only during the winter sessions and his formal education was completed at the age of sixteen. In June, 1857, he came to Wisconsin and his first experience here was working by the month on the farm of Hiram Smith in the town of Sheboygan Falls. Later, in order to acquire a better education, he worked for his board, taking care of a span of horses and some cows, and walked  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles night and morning to the nearest school.

In the spring of 1859 he entered the office of the Fond du Lac Commonwealth to learn the printer's trade. He learned how to set type and all the other complexities of the printing art as found in a country print shop, and was adjudged a faithful and capable worker. Then, in September, 1861, he dropped his printing stick to enlist in Company K, First Wisconsin Infantry. With that regiment he saw service during the Kentucky campaign of 1862, the campaign in Tennessee and Northern Alabama, and was with the first troops to throw a shell across the Tennessee River at Chattanooga. He was with his regiment up to and including the battle of Chickamauga, September 19-20, 1863. Between sundown and dark of the second day of the battle of Chickamauga he was taken prisoner, and was successively confined on Belle Isle and in Smith's Building at Richmond, at Danville, Virginia, at Andersonville, Georgia, and at Charleston and Florence, South Carolina. He endured all the hardships of prison life for nearly fifteen months. During his active service he held the non-commissioned offices of corporal and sergeant. His exchange was effected in January, 1865, and his term having expired in the meantime he was at once mustered out. Mr. McGlachlin became a charter member of the local Grand Army Post, has filled all its important offices, and in 1896-97 was quartermaster general of the Department of Wisconsin, Grand Army of the Republic.

Having resumed the printing business immediately after his return from the army, Mr. McGlachlin in 1868 became associated with J. A. Watrous and T. B. Reid in the publication of the Fond du Lac Commonwealth. After a year he sold his interest in that paper and for a time was foreman of the Daily Herald at Clinton, Iowa, and subsequently was foreman of the Oshkosh Daily Northwestern.

The majority of Portage County people hardly remember a time when Mr. McGlachlin was not connected with the Stevens Point Journal. He bought this paper in 1873, forty-five years ago. Two years later he sold a half interest to T. J. Simons, and their partnership continued nearly eighteen years, until terminated by the death of Mr. Simons in January, 1893. Then for twenty-four years, until March 1, 1917, Mr. McGlachlin was sole owner and editor. In 1917 the Stevens Point Journal Company was organized, with Mr. McGlachlin as president. In 1897 he established the first daily paper in Stevens Point.

His political experience is an interesting one and now almost unique among living Wisconsin citizens. The first political meeting he attended was one in support of Fremont for president, back in 1856,

when republicans first had their national organization. The first ballot he cast and every succeeding one in presidential elections has borne the name of the republican nominees. Mr. McGlachlin was elected a member of the Legislature in 1888, as a republican, serving one term. In March, 1889, he was appointed postmaster of Stevens Point by President Harrison, and held that office four years. During that term, and largely due to his influence, the free delivery system was established in Stevens Point. He has also been a member and treasurer of the board of education of the city, was a member of the first board of jury commissioners organized in Portage County, and has held a number of other honorary positions.

In 1904 he was chosen a presidential elector and cast one of Wisconsin's thirteen votes for Theodore Roosevelt. It may properly be said that these positions have been mere incidents in a career of undeviating service rendered as editor and publisher of the Stevens Point Journal.

Mr. McGlachlin has lived long, usefully and well, and his own character has been transmitted to children in whom his pride is now centered. Mr. McGlachlin married at Fond du Lac August 21, 1867, Mary E. Lawrence. Their three children are Edward Fenton, Lucy K. and Thomas Lawrence. The highest star in Portage County's honorary roll represents the older son, Major General Edward Fenton McGlachlin, to whom a special sketch is devoted. The other son, Thomas L., is vice president and treasurer of the Stevens Point Journal Company. The daughter, Mrs. B. D. Berry, is a resident of Springfield, Ohio.

GENERAL EDWARD FENTON MCGLACHLIN, now with the American Expeditionary Forces in France with the rank of major general, is a son of the veteran editor and publisher of the Stevens Point Journal, and spent his boyhood in Portage County.

He was born at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, June 9, 1868, and graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1889. Besides the practical experience of thirty years of army life, he received special training by a course in submarine mining at the Engineers School of Application in 1893; Artillery School in 1896; School of Fire for Field Artillery, 1912; Field Officers' Course Army Service Schools in 1916; and was a graduate of the Army War College in 1917.

His record of promotion and service is briefly stated as follows: additional second lieutenant, Third Artillery, June 12, 1889; second lieutenant, Fifth Artillery, October 4, 1889; first lieutenant, First Artillery, June 1, 1897, transferred to Fifth Artillery, July 9, 1897; captain, Artillery Corps, February 2, 1901; assigned to Fourth Field Artillery June 6, 1907; major, August 12, 1907; transferred to Second Field Artillery September 16, 1911; lieutenant colonel, December 27, 1912; transferred to Third Field Artillery March 1, 1914; to Fifth Field Artillery September 8, 1914; commissioned colonel July 1, 1916, of the Eighth and Tenth Field Artillery; and was made brigadier general of the National Army August 5, 1917, and in 1918 was one of the brigadier generals gazetted for promotion to major general.

General McGlachlin received special mention in orders for services in the battle of Bud Dajolo in the Philippine Islands in 1906. He commanded the Recruit Depot at Fort McDowell in California from 1909 to 1911. He was commandant of the School of Fire for Field

Artillery from 1914 to 1916, and during August to December, 1917, was commander of the One Hundred and Sixty-Fifth Field Artillery Brigade. He was appointed commander of the Sixty-Seventh Field Artillery Brigade December 14, 1917.

General McGlachlin is a member of the Field Artillery Association, the Military Service Institution, the Army and Navy Club of Washington, and has long been a recognized technical expert in the artillery branch of service. He is a member of the Episcopal Church. General McGlachlin married, November 26, 1892, Louisa Harrison Chew, of Washington.

**JACOB BORCHARDT.** Many useful activities are connected with the name of Jacob Borchardt, for over forty years a resident of Portage County. In early days he worked for the Wisconsin Central Railroad, was employed in sawmills and other lines of business, but more substantially has been identified with farming and apple growing. He has reared a splendid family of children and two of his sons are now in the army.

Mr. Borchardt was born in Poland April 30, 1848. His parents spent all their lives in Poland, and in that country Jacob grew up and had his early training both in school and in the duties and responsibilities of life. On June 18, 1873, he landed in New York City, and in the same year came to Stevens Point. For about five months he was employed with the construction forces that were building the Wisconsin Central Railway. The next four years he spent as a worker in the saw mills of McMillan Brothers. For a time he was engaged in the saloon business at Stevens Point where the Kuchnowski grocery store now is. He was in that location eleven years, and then bought forty acres of land in Hull Township, working it but keeping his residence in Stevens Point. He also owns eight lots of ground which have been highly developed as an apple orchard, and it is said that Mr. Borchardt raises more apples than are grown in all the rest of Stevens Point put together and is probably the chief apple grower in the county. Out of the proceeds of his long and active career he has provided liberally for his family and given his children ample educational advantages. Mr. Borchardt is a democrat and a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church.

February 10, 1879, he and Miss Annie Donda were married in St. Peter's Church by Father Walon. Mrs. Borchardt was born in Poland in November, 1854, daughter of John and Rose Donda who came to Princeton, Wisconsin, about 1876 and the following year located at Stevens Point, where her father died in October, 1896, and her mother on April 27, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Borchardt became the parents of ten children: Frank B., the eldest, born October 2, 1879, was educated in the parochial and public schools, also the normal school, and then entered the railway service as an operator, his first assignment being at Witte, Wisconsin, from which point he was transferred to Abbottsford. He was with the Wisconsin Central for twelve years at different locations, spent two years at Cheyenne, Wyoming, and is now employed by the Northern Railway Company at Limon, Costa Rica, Central America. He is unmarried. The second child, Mary, born December 5, 1880, was educated in the parochial and public schools, is a skilled dress-maker by trade, and is the wife of Albert Sowke. They have two



children, Irene and Albur. Jacob, who was born September 8, 1882, was educated in the parochial and the high school of Stevens Point, and is now a photographer at Chicago. He married May Potter and has four children, Paul, Harold, Kenneth and Dorothy. Joseph, who was born March 10, 1884, was educated in the parochial and public schools, and is still at home working for his father. Alexander, born February 13, 1886, was educated in the public and parochial schools and normal school, and is now a resident of Chicago. For some time he was employed by the Wisconsin Central or Soo line but is now with the Western Electric Company. He married Marie Johansen, and has two children, Melvin and Raymond. Leo A., the sixth of the family, was born March 21, 1889, and had his education in the public and parochial schools. On April 20, 1917, he enlisted at Stevens Point and is now with the Expeditionary Forces in France employed as a cook at one of the general staff headquarters. Wanda, born June 20, 1891, was educated in the parochial schools and the high school and by her marriage to Christ Korup has one child, Christ. Emil, born March 18, 1893, was educated in the parochial and public schools and was employed by the Western Electric Company in Chicago until his number was called in the army draft. Lily, born May 24, 1895, is still at home and has been well educated in the local schools. Edward, the youngest of the family, was born January 3, 1897, has finished his education, and is now employed in the Express Company at Stevens Point.

GEORGE M. HOULEHAN, D. D. S. It is scarcely believable that in the present enlightened days, in any remote community may yet be found one of the old fashioned dentists, those mighty wielders of the forceps whose reputations were largely founded on their strength in their professional work rather than their skill. In the days of our fathers, "going to the dentist" was a matter of fearful resolve, and only undertaken after the failure of every domestic remedy. Along no line of surgical science have more vital discoveries been made than in dentistry. They have revealed the fact that in the preservation of the teeth largely rests the conservation of health, and that it is to the dentist instead of the doctor that nine-tenths of the mysteriously ailing should apply for cure. The modern dentist, with his sensitive fingers, his mathematical talent for exactness, his proverbial patience and his scientifically acquired knowledge, which includes a course in medicine, works in his sanitary office with scientifically perfect tools and preparations, and practically without pain, does wonders for his patients. At present, in the United States, he is not only engaged, outside his private practice, in giving advice and professional services in the school-children's clinic, but belongs to hundreds of units that have answered the call, even from beyond the sea, for his invaluable help in making whole his country's brave fighting men.

Among the professional men well and widely known at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, not one stands higher either professionally or personally, than Dr. George M. Houlehan, dental surgeon, who has spent the larger part of his mature life in practice here. He was born in Taychedah Township, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, April 16, 1867. His parents were James and Margaret (O'Connor) Houlehan. They were natives of Ireland and were among the early settlers in Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, where the father followed farming

until 1887, when he removed his family to Stevens Point. Here both father and mother died, the former on November 2, 1893, when aged eighty years, and the latter on December 10, 1903, being in her seventy-sixth year. Seven of their family of eight children are living, Dr. George M. being the youngest. They were highly respected residents of this city and were faithful members of the Roman Catholic Church.

George M. Houlehan obtained his early education in Fond du Lac County and after completing the public school course, entered the Northwestern College of Dental Surgery, Chicago, and practiced to some degree at Stevens Point even before he was creditably graduated, receiving at that time the Lake Forest University gold medal. Since 1892 Doctor Houlehan has been in active practice here, maintaining his well equipped office at No. 448½ Main Street. He has the distinction of being the oldest dentist here, in length of practice. He has always kept abreast of the times in his profession, taking a post graduate course in Lane College, attending clinics when opportunity has offered and reading the best of professional literature.

Doctor Houlehan was married May 6, 1891, to Miss Matilda Khumsmeier, of Lombard, Illinois, who died at Stevens Point, November 23, 1914. Two sons were born to them, Forest George and Alfred R. Forest George was graduated from high school and the Commercial Course at Bourbonnais, near Kankakee, Illinois, where he carried off the honors of the commercial course class, receiving the gold medal for proficiency. He is a member of the National Army, being sergeant of Battery E, One Hundred and Twentieth Field Artillery, now stationed at Waco, Texas. His younger brother, Alfred R., is equally patriotic and is a member of the same battery. Alfred R. spent one year at St. Thomas' Military School, and both he and brother were graduated from St. Viator College, Bourbonnais, Illinois. They are young men of sterling character and have the warm esteem of their comrades, the high regard of their superiors and the admiration and good wishes of all the worthy people of Stevens Point.

Doctor Houlehan is identified quite prominently with several of the representative fraternal organizations of the country. He belongs to the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin, to the Catholic Order of Foresters, to the Knights of Columbus and to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In the last named order he is past exalted ruler of Lodge No. 641, and was the delegate sent from Wisconsin to the National convention of Elks that met at Atlantic City.

**ALEXANDER RINGNESS.** The manufacture and handling of footwear has become one of the leading lines of business in the United States, largely so because of the enterprise of the keen-visioned men who have been able to see in this common necessity the continuous and growing demand that insures a market. Since early days many changes have come about in the manufacture of this indispensable article of civilized life. Although varied in form and in material according to the conditions of climate, the human foot has often, for the sake of fashion, been forced to accommodate itself to coverings of straw, paper, fur, silk, satin and velvet, there has never yet been found a satisfactory substitute for dressed leather, from which the old-fashioned shoemaker, master of his craft, so deftly fashioned the

comfortable footwear, according to exact measurement, in past days. Time came, however, when his trade was no longer profitable because of the introduction of machinery and the invention of trade tools, and it is doubtful whether any general dealers in modern days have any fine hand-work to offer. Otherwise their stocks may be complete in every particular as is that of Alexander Ringness, an experienced shoe and leather man, who has conducted his large shoe store at No. 112 South Third Street, Stevens Point, for the past sixteen years.

Alexander Ringness was born in Norway, January 23, 1867, and was brought to the United States in his second year. His parents were Herman and Pauline (Hoved) Ringness. In 1868 they came to the United States and to Wisconsin, stopping first at Amherst in Portage County, then coming to Stevens Point. The father was an expert shoemaker and found ready employment here and conducted his own business along this line until his death, which occurred July 11, 1886. The mother survived him for a number of years, her death taking place on May 8, 1899. They were most worthy people, quiet, industrious and moral and were faithful members of the Episcopal Church. They had a family of five children, namely: Emma, Alexander, Ole, Henry and John. The father became a citizen of the United States and took some interest in public affairs and identified himself politically with the democratic party.

Alexander Ringness secured his education in the public schools at Stevens Point, attending regularly until he was fourteen years old when he became a workman in his father's shop and under his instruction learned the practical part of the shoe business. He continued in the manufacturing line until 1902 when he established his shoe store, which he has conducted ever since. With his practical knowledge of the business Mr. Ringness knows how to buy as well as sell, knows the factories which have special and made to order shops and those that have but one standard of goods—the very best, and his customers profit accordingly. Mr. Ringness not only is one of the representative business men of Stevens Point, but enjoys the reputation of being a thoroughly reliable one, honest and upright in all his transactions.

Mr. Ringness was married at Stevens Point, in 1913, to Mrs. Clara Means, of this city, and they have two sons, Thomas and William. Mr. and Mrs. Ringness are members of the Presbyterian Church. In his political views he is a democrat and is a loyal supporter of the administration, and in every way is a patriotic citizen. He has never accepted any political office but frequently has served on local committees when benevolent movements were under contemplation, and has never united with any fraternal organization with the exception of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of which he is a very active and valued member.

DANIEL CORLETT. Many of the most prosperous and substantial citizens of Wisconsin come from the further side of the broad Atlantic, and to the country of their adoption have brought those habits of industry, economy and thrift that have won for themselves positions of prominence in the business world. Noteworthy among this number is Daniel Corlett, of Stevens Point, who has accumulated much wealth through legitimate channels of endeavor and now occupies a place in

the front rank of the many successful business men of Portage County. He was born June 20, 1845, on the Isle of Man, that little strip of land lying in the Irish Sea. There his parents, Daniel and Margaret (Quail) Corlett, spent their entire lives, the father, a farmer by occupation, dying in 1867 and the mother in 1848.

At the age of sixteen years, having acquired his early education on his native isle, Daniel Corlett came to the United States, and for a while was variously employed in Cleveland, Ohio. Leaving that city, he made his way to Sussex, Waukesha County, this state, where he became interested in the mechanical arts, and was also employed as boatman on the Lakes. In 1873 he received his license as an engineer, and during the five years that he subsequently remained in the lake service he worked his way upward until becoming chief engineer on a large boat. Resigning the position in 1878, Mr. Corlett was for five years successfully engaged in the meat business at Edmore, Michigan. Coming from there to Portage County in 1885, he located in Eau Pleine Township and engaged in the lumber business, becoming a partner of his father-in-law, Thomas Petty, who had erected a saw mill there in 1875, and had lived there for twenty-seven years. Mr. Corlett continued in the lumber business until 1909, when the mill was destroyed by fire. In the meantime he had acquired title to several large tracts of land, including one farm of 450 acres, which he sold in 1912. As an agriculturist Mr. Corlett showed excellent judgment and ability. He made substantial and valuable improvements on his farms, and in addition to carrying on general farming had a large dairy and kept many sheep, in each line meeting with success.

Mr. Corlett married, April 14, 1880, Elizabeth Ann Petty, who was born in England, October 10, 1853. Her father, Thomas Petty, emigrated from England to Canada in 1855, and for several years resided with his family in Hamilton. Coming to the States in 1862, he was engaged in fruit growing at Grand Haven for quite a while. Lured westward by the glowing accounts of the rich and rare minerals to be found in the Rockies, Mr. Petty made an overland trip to Idaho, going by teams from St. Joseph, Missouri, to the gold fields. Stopping en route, he was in Salt Lake City when the foundation for the Mormon Church was laid. Returning to Michigan, and then to Wisconsin, Mr. Petty located in Portage County, where he became an extensive land owner. In 1875, in company with Charles Segelke, he built a saw mill at Eau Pleine and engaged in the lumber business as junior member of the firm of Segelke & Petty. He moved to Eau Pleine in 1880, and was there a resident until his death in 1907, at the age of seventy-eight years. Mr. Petty married, in England, Mary Ann Thompson, who preceded him to the world beyond, dying in 1892. They had but one child, Mrs. Corlett. Mr. and Mrs. Corlett have no children. Politically Mr. Corlett is a republican, and for several terms served as township treasurer. Fraternally he is a member of Evergreen Lodge No. 93, Ancient Free and Accepted Order of Masons; and is also a Royal Arch Mason and a Knight Templar. Religiously both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

BRAYTON L. VAUGHAN. Energetic, enterprising and eminently practical, Brayton L. Vaughan, head of the well-known firm of B. L. Vaughan & Sons, occupies an assured position among the active and prosperous business men of Stevens Point as a house mover, trans-

porter of heavy freight and a contractor in excavating and stone work, employing many men and being an important factor in advancing the industrial interests of this section of Portage County. He is a son of the late Eliphalet H. Vaughan, who was born March 21, 1808, in Redford, New York.

His paternal grandfather, Ira Vaughan, was born in New York State, December 21, 1783, and there grew to man's estate. Several years after his marriage he came with his family to Wisconsin, locating first in Dane County. Subsequently he moved to Stevens Point, Portage County, where he acquired considerable landed property, and continued his residence until his death, which occurred at his home on Clark Street July 25, 1871. He married, November 4, 1804, Sarah Boorn, who was born in New York State, July 31, 1787, and died at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, February 18, 1877. He was a surveyor by profession, and active in public affairs, having held several local offices. To him and his good wife children were born as follows: Ruth, Eliphalet H., Ira B., Eri F., Sarah S., Eslie W., Eli P., Anselem P., and Levi P. N.

Eliphalet H. Vaughan was born March 21, 1808, in Redford, Clinton County, New York, his birthplace having been located on Lake Champlain. He was there bred and educated, and while yet young was well trained in agricultural pursuits. In 1847, accompanied by his family, he made an overland journey to Wisconsin, settling in Dane County in pioneer times. Not satisfied with the result of his labors in that part of the state, he came to Portage County, rich in its pine forests, and on March 4, 1855, located at Stevens Point. He bought a fourth of a block on Clark Street, establishing his home at No. 1300, and continued as a lumberman and surveyor until his death, February 8, 1890. He was a republican in politics, and served for one or more terms as alderman.

Eliphalet H. Vaughan married at Redford, New York, May 14, 1833, Mary Constant La Fountain, who was born August 7, 1813, in Canada, her father having been a pilot on a Saint Lawrence River boat. They were the parents of eleven children, namely: Eri, born February 13, 1834; Mercy C., born September 8, 1835; Andrew O., born October 27, 1837; Ezy, born June 8, 1840; David H., born November 17, 1842, a surveyor at Rhinelander, Wisconsin; Emeline C., born February 9, 1845; twin boys that died in infancy; Robert D., born November 17, 1848, lives in Waupaca County, this state; Brayton L., with whom this sketch is chiefly concerned; and Styles H., born July 10, 1854, is a resident of Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Completing his early studies in the Stevens Point High School, Brayton L. Vaughan became familiar with lumbering when young, working first in the woods and later as a log driver on the river. Embarking in business for himself, he continued operating as a lumberman until 1914, in the meantime buying and clearing many pieces of valuable timber land. In 1880, in conjunction with his other work, Mr. Vaughan began his career as a house mover, and in the venture has met with pronounced success, at the present time keeping four crews of men busily employed. He also carries on a large business in excavating and stone work, largely in cemeteries, and makes a specialty of handling heavy freight of all kinds. A man of good financial as well as executive ability, Mr. Vaughan has accumulated a substantial property, owning four houses on Clark Street and three on Main Street.

everything being in the name of the firm of B. L. Vaughan & Sons. Mr. Vaughan resides at 1403 Main Street, where he has a most pleasant and hospitable home.

He married in 1875, at Stevens Point, Harriet Tupper, who belonged to a distinguished family, her grandfather Tupper having been a brother of Hon. Sir Charles Tupper. She was born in Belmont Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, March 17, 1856. Her father, Thomas H. Tupper, a native of New Brunswick, came to Portage County, Wisconsin, in pioneer days, settling in Belmont Township in 1849. During the Civil war he enlisted as a soldier, and died while in service, in 1863, aged thirty years. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth White, was born in Maine, and died in Wisconsin in June, 1916, aged seventy-eight years.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan has been brightened by the birth of four children, namely: Arvin L., born January 30, 1876; David Clyde, born January 4, 1879; Algie P., born December 23, 1882; and Zada Evelyn, born November 29, 1893. Arvin L. Vaughan, the first-born child of his parents, was educated in the graded and high schools of Stevens Point and at the Normal School, and is now a member of the firm of B. L. Vaughan & Sons. He married Beatress Georgia Smart, and they have two children, Iris lanthe and Terrence Granfall. David Clyde Vaughan attended the local high school, the State Normal School and the Stevens Point Business College, and is now associated in business with his father as treasurer of the firm. He married Rosella May Sutton, and they have three children, Hassell Sutton and Frederick Allen, both students in the high school, and Leonora, in the sixth grade of the grammar school. Aglie P. Vaughan, who died December 28, 1911, married, May 4, 1905, Mary Anna Marx, who was born December 3, 1887. Of the four children born of their union, Richard, the oldest child, died at the age of two years, and three are living, Eugene Henry, Raymond George and Irma Marie, all of whom have been adopted by their Grandfather Vaughan. Zada Evelyn Vaughan, the only daughter of the parental household, completed her early education in the State Normal School, and on October 10, 1915, became the wife of Edward Steiner, of Elkmound, Wisconsin.

Religiously Mr. Vaughan is an active member of the Baptist Church, and for many years has been a teacher in its Sunday school. He is a republican in politics, and has served as supervisor and as a member of the County Board. Fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, to the Equitable Fraternal Union and to the Beavers. He was formerly a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and the Modern Woodmen of America.

ERNEST E. INGLE. A comparatively recent addition to the progressive class of citizenship at Almond is Ernest E. Ingle, who came here to reside permanently and to take an active part in affairs in 1913. During the period that has elapsed since his arrival and the present he has been an active factor in promulgating and supporting many things which have worked out for the public benefit, and through the columns of his live and constantly growing newspaper, the Portage County Press, has done much to make outside communities acquainted with what this thriving little city is accomplishing and to spur his fellow-townsmen on to still greater efforts.

Mr. Ingle was born on a farm in Rock Township, Wood County,

Wisconsin, February 9, 1887, and is a son of Charles and Ellen (Van) Ingle, both of whom were born in the East. His father, who was a son of English parents, passed his life in agricultural pursuits, having at different times owned properties in various communities, but did not live to see his industrious efforts bear much fruit, as he passed away when still in middle life, or about 1900, when his son was thirteen years of age. His death occurred on his farm in Wausshara County, whence he had removed from Wood County, and at his death he left five children. His widow remarried and survived until 1909, passing away at Stevens Point.

The public schools of Plainfield, Wisconsin, furnished Ernest E. Ingle with his early education, and he was brought up on the farm, but the agricultural life did not appeal to his energetic nature, and in casting about for some more congenial vocation settled upon the printer's trade. He was about eighteen years of age when he started to learn this occupation, in an office at Plainfield, and when he had once mastered his trade he became a journeyman printer and for some years went from place to place, as is the wont of most young printers during the early years of their allegiance to this business. Finally, after he had gained much experience both profitable and otherwise, he and his partner started a newspaper in North Dakota, which was known as the Slope County News, but his connection with this sheet did not last a long time, when he sold out to other parties, the paper still being in existence there. On January 1, 1913, Mr. Ingle came to Almond, where he purchased the stock and good will of the Press Publishing Company, which had been established at this point some years before. Since that time he has been engaged in a general printing business, and also prints the Portage County Press, of which he is editor and publisher. This is a weekly publication which has a good circulation at Almond and in the southern part of Portage County, as well as in other communities, and is a neatly printed sheet, well edited and including live news matter and numerous interesting features. Mr. Ingle has kept his paper clean and reliable, and in this way has attracted the confidence and appreciation of the public, as well as of the advertising men of this community, the Press being well supported in the latter direction by merchants and professional men.

Mr. Ingle was married September 26, 1909, to Miss Ethel Elwood, of Almond, daughter of Charles H. Elwood. They have no children. Mr. Ingle is active in various avenues of affairs at Almond and is a man who touches life on many sides. He is interested fraternally in the Modern Woodmen of America and the Masons, and he and Mrs. Ingle are popular members of the Order of the Eastern Star and supporters of movements in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has accepted his share of the responsibilities of citizenship and has served faithfully and capably as a member of the village board for two years and as clerk of the school board for four years.

**FRANK M. GLENNON.** The mercantile interests of Stevens Point are important and they engage the attention of business men of keen intellect and sound financial understanding. One of the leading merchants here is Frank M. Glennon, whose impressive business house is situated on Main Street, a fine building 30 by 180 feet in dimensions, with ground floor space covering Nos. 436 and 438. Mr. Glennon is a

native of Portage County and through his numerous business connections is known throughout its extent.

Frank M. Glennon was born at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, September 25, 1869. His parents were James and Julia (Fleming) Glennon, and farther back the ancestry belonged to Ireland. In early boyhood he attended the parochial school and later, while partly providing for his own necessities by selling newspapers and making himself generally useful, he completed the public school course. He then accepted a position as clerk in a dry goods store and continued as such for seventeen years, during this time securing a sound understanding of merchandise values and business methods. In 1903 Mr. Glennon bought the interest of John Rothman in the dry goods firm of Moll & Rothman, since which time the style has been Moll Glennon Company, and since its incorporation Mr. Glennon has been secretary and treasurer of the firm, Mr. Moll being president and Charles E. Blodgett, of Marshfield, Wisconsin, being vice president. This firm is one of the sound and representative business houses of Portage County, both collectively and individually, and its standing in the general commercial field ranks it with concerns in much larger cities. An extensive business is done in dry goods and ready to wear garments, the choice and selection of which are guided by ripe mercantile experience.

Mr. Glennon was married in 1902 to Miss Anna Plicka, who was born in the City of Chicago, where her father died. Her mother, Mrs. Anna Plicka, resides with Mr. and Mrs. Glennon. They have two children, a son, Kenneth, who is seven years old, and a daughter, Florence, who is five years old. The family home is the handsome residence standing at No. 630 Main Street, Stevens Point. A member of St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Church, Mr. Glennon is a liberal contributor to its many branches of benevolent work, is not only helpful in this way but is ever ready to assist in furthering humanitarian movements that concern the whole world.

In political sentiment Mr. Glennon has always been a democrat but has never had any desire to hold public office, although from many standpoints no more effective training for public usefulness can be found than in the business field. He is an active member of the Commercial Commerce Club, the Retail Merchants Association and the Rotary Club, and fraternally is identified with the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Knights of Columbus.

GUTHORM J. OLSTAD. Within the past thirty-three years, a period covered since Guthorm J. Olstad, one of Alban Township's representative men, first came here, wonderful changes have come about in the development of Portage County, not only in agricultural but along other lines, indicating an intelligent and substantial citizenship. Great tracts of land then covered with forest trees are now productive farms to which the eyes of the nations of the earth are hopefully looking for sustenance in time of dire need; the few specimens of common, almost wild, cattle have given way to costly herds of high grade Holsteins or Guernseys; churches in every hamlet open their doors offering religious help and teaching; schoolhouses on the cross roads are well equipped and as well built as the comfortable farmhouses from which come hundreds of happy pupils, and substantial business enterprises offer here safe investments and profitable returns. Undoubtedly



Portage County is the home of a peaceful, industrious, contented people, and many of them are of Norwegian birth or ancestry, both of these distinctions belonging to Guthorm J. Olstad.

Mr. Olstad was born February 28, 1865, in Norway. His parents were John and Ingeborg (Gaphol) Olstad, who were born, reared and married in Norway. They were farming people there. They had eleven children, and the parents spent their last years with those settled in Alban Township, Portage County. Of the above family, Guthorm J. was the youngest, the names of the others being as follows: Ole, Martha, Peter, Sophia, Martin, John, Gustav, Ida, Lewis and Guthorm (1), the last named with Martin and Gustav, being deceased.

Guthorm J. Olstad was nineteen years old and his school days were over when he came to the United States and to Alban Township, Portage County, Wisconsin. For a number of years afterward he was a lumber man, working in the woods and grading lumber in the saw mills, at different points, in fact continuing lumbering to a great extent until his marriage in 1905. In the meanwhile, however, as early as 1894 he had purchased his present farm, on which he has resided for the last fourteen years and has successfully carried on farm and stock industries. Mr. Olstad has seventy-eight acres, well situated as to markets as it lies only one mile east of Rosholt, and one of the profitable features of his farm is the breeding of Holstein cattle, having a large herd at the present time of these fine animals. Mr. Olstad has improved his property, building additions to his barn as they have become necessary, and building one of the finest residences in the township and equipping it with many comforts and conveniences.

In 1905 Mr. Olstad was married to Miss Helen Oas, who was born in Alban Township, Portage County, and is a daughter of Ole J. and Turina (Hansen) Oas, both of whom were born in Norway. All of the grandparents of Mrs. Olstad died in Norway except her paternal grandmother, who accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Oas when they came to the United States in 1865. Some years later she died at the home of a daughter in Iola Township, Waupaca County, Wisconsin. During the first year after Mr. and Mrs. Oas came to Wisconsin the father of Mrs. Olstad worked on a farm in Scandania Township, Waupaca County, and then came to Portage County and bought a farm of eighty acres in Alban Township, adjoining that of Mr. Olstad, and later bought forty additional acres. He not only cleared the land but erected the first buildings on it. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Oas, namely: Emma, John, Dena, Henry, deceased, Hans, deceased, Helen, now Mrs. Olstad, and Olivia. The mother of this family died on the old farm in 1882, and the father died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Olstad in 1914. He was a man of large importance in Alban Township and prominent in politics, serving many years as township chairman and as township treasurer, and at the time of his death was filling the office of township assessor. He was one of the organizers of the Alban Norwegian Lutheran Church, the first church in the entire township.

Mr. Olstad, like his late father-in-law, is one of the township's leading men and at times has served in responsible offices, such as on the school board and as township treasurer. He has shown his public spirit and enterprise in giving encouragement to home enterprises that can not fail of benefiting the farming community, and was one of the organizers of the Rosholt creamery, which has proved a profitable

venture and one in which the father of Mrs. Olstad was also interested.

GEORGE L. BARROWS. When a citizen of any community has lived to the age of more than three score and ten years, maintaining through all vicissitudes an unblemished character, faithfully meeting the obligations incident to his lot and discharging with manly fidelity the duties incumbent upon him in all the relations of life, it is a pleasing task to place the story of his career in an enduring form. The possession of such a record by the family which he has toiled to rear, and its transmittal to their posterity, is not only a boon to them but the narrative of his worthy life, preserved in the permanent characters of a book, serves as a wholesale incentive to all others who may chance to peruse the pages containing it. The foregoing lines pertain with obvious pertinence to George L. Barrows, one of the highly respected residents of Stevens Point, now living in retirement after many years passed in railroad work.

Mr. Barrows was born at Calais, Washington County, Maine, August 23, 1845, a son of Allen and Sarah (Faunce) Barrows, who passed their lives in that, their native state. He was reared in Maine, where he received his education in the public schools, and when he left home went to Massachusetts. His father was a minister of the Baptist Church and held a number of pulpits in Maine, working faithfully as a preacher of the Gospel until his death in 1870, Mrs. Barrows surviving him for about two years. They had six children: Aurilla; William and Sarah, who are deceased; Harris, who is a Baptist minister; Frank, deceased; and George L.

George L. Barrows was variously employed in Massachusetts without making much headway and eventually decided to try his fortunes in the West. Accordingly, in 1872, he came to Wisconsin, and at Stevens Point secured a position as a brakeman on a freight train. He was industrious, faithful and efficient, performing his tasks in an orderly and systematic manner, and won a firm place in the esteem and confidence of his employers who in 1882 advanced him to conductor. Soon thereafter he was again promoted, this time to passenger conductor, and during the thirty-three years that followed he continued with his daily duties, becoming one of the best known and most popular conductors on the line. He was widely known to the traveling public, and because of his unflinching courtesy and obliging spirit made friendships that have lasted and strengthened with the passing of the years. In 1915, after forty-three years of devoted and loyal service, he was pensioned by the company and retired to his comfortable home at No. 1109 Shaurette Street, which he erected in 1903, and which has been his home since that year.

Mr. Barrows is a republican in politics, but the nature of his employment made it impossible for him to ever engage in public affairs as a contestant for honors. He belongs to the Baptist Church. In 1882 Mr. Barrows was married to Miss Olive Bancroft, who was born at Ashland, Wisconsin, a daughter of Warren G. Bancroft, one of the pioneers of Ashland and a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Barrows died in the faith of that church, having been the mother of six children, of whom three survive: Leda, who is the wife of Smith Murrish, principal of the Stevens Point High School; Georgia, the wife of Fred Pitsch, of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, and the mother

of two children, Robert and Martha Louise; and Frank, who is proprietor of the Palace of Sweets at Stevens Point.

**JOHN J. HEFFRON.** A worthy representative of the keen, clear-headed and progressive business men of Stevens Point, John J. Heffron, an extensive dealer in real estate, has been a conspicuous factor in the upbuilding of this part of the state, having bought, platted and built upon lands in both Portage and Marathon counties, his operations in that direction having been extensive and of benefit not only to himself but to the communities wherein he has labored. A son of the late Matthew Heffron, he was born in Portage County, Wisconsin, April 11, 1865, coming from honored Irish ancestry.

Born in Kilkenny, Ireland, Matthew Heffron came to Portage County, Wisconsin in 1848, poor in pocket but rich in energy and ambition. He began work as a farm laborer, and being industrious and thrifty was enabled ere many years had passed to buy a tract of land in Portage County. Very successful as an agriculturist, he bought more land from time to time, at his death having a well-improved farm of 340 acres, lying in Stockton Township. He married in Portage County Katharine Regan, who was born in Cork, Ireland, and as child came with her parents to Wisconsin. Children were born of their union as follows: Martin; Kate; Daniel W.; Nora; John J.; Bridget, deceased; Mary, who died at the age of five years; and Lizzie. Bridget, the sixth child, married, and died in Aberdeen, South Dakota, leaving one son, who is living with his father, W. McHugh, in South Dakota and three daughters. One daughter, Agnes, teaches in the State Normal School and another daughter, Mary, is a teacher in the schools at Grand Rapids, this state.

Brought up on the parental homestead, John J. Heffron was educated in the public schools, and under his father's tutelage acquired a practical knowledge of agriculture. As a young man he attended the State Normal School at Oshkosh, and later taught school for a year. In 1891, preferring an active rather than professional career, he embarked in the real estate business, making his first sale of farm land in October of that year. Encouraged by his first attempt in that line, Mr. Heffron continued his operations, and since that time has, perhaps, sold as many pieces of farm property as any real estate dealer in Portage County. He established the Village of Heffron in Belmont Township, Portage County, erecting 125 houses in the place; he also built forty houses in Knowlton, Marathon County; and in addition to those mentioned has put up about forty houses in Portage County. Mr. Heffron came from his farm to Stevens Point in 1900, opening an office at 313 Clark Street, and, as can be judged from his extensive real estate dealings, has built up a profitable business.

Mr. Heffron married, November 10, 1892, Miss Mary E. McHugh, of Stockton Township, and they have had three children, namely: Harold, deceased; Pearl M.; and John J., Jr. An active and influential member of the democratic party, Mr. Heffron served two years as alderman. Religiously he is a member of the Catholic Church. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Columbus and to the Catholic Order of Foresters.

**ROBERT B. WILSON.** There was a time not so many years ago when the youth and vigor and manhood of Portage County were almost

constantly in demand by the lumbering industry, and among men now past middle age it is exceptional when some portion of their younger years was not spent in the lumber woods or on the rivers, or in some employment connected with the converting of the great lumber resources of Wisconsin into manufactured products.

One of the veterans of the forest and one of the oldest residents of Portage County is Mr. Robert B. Wilson, who lives at Stevens Point and is now foreman in the employ of the State Highway Commission. Mr. Wilson was born in Chemung County, New York, May 9, 1851, a son of William and Phoebe (Fleming) Wilson. His father was born at Wells, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, February 19, 1826 and his mother was born at Trenton, New Jersey, December 7, 1824. The paternal grandfather, Estill Wilson, was born October 20, 1796 and married Mary McCurter, who was born July 18, 1795. They were pioneers of Portage County, Wisconsin, but did not remain long, returning to the State of Pennsylvania, where Mary Wilson died May 27, 1855. The grandfather subsequently came back to Portage County and died here at an advanced age, on May 25, 1875. His children were Sarah, Lydia, Robert, William and James.

In October, 1853, William Wilson brought his family to Portage County and in the fall of that year secured a farm in Amherst Township. For more than forty years he went regularly about his tasks of clearing away the woods, cultivating his soil, and keeping up all the duties and responsibilities of a good citizen and good home maker, and he died in this county honored and respected on December 30, 1898. His widow survived him and passed away at Stevens Point on May 14, 1916. She had continued to live on the old homestead until April, 1915. Her father was Thomas Fleming. Thomas and Rachel Fleming were also among the pioneers of Portage County, Wisconsin, and spent many useful years there. Their children were Hannah, William, Maria, Phoebe, Harriet, Pernelia and Benjamin Fleming. The seven children born to William and Phoebe Wilson were: Robert B.; Estill; Thomas; Mary, wife of James Fowle; Richard; Henry; and Edith, wife of Carl Hartel. The father of these children was an active republican and for seventeen years filled an office in the township board of Amherst and for most of that time was chairman of the board. He and his wife were devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the latter was active in church from the age of twelve years.

Robert B. Wilson was only two or three years old when his parents came to Portage County, and his first conscious recollections are of the woods and log cabin homes and other sparse improvements in this county sixty years ago. As he grew up he developed his strength on the old homestead, and acquired a knowledge of the fundamentals in the local schools. He was only fifteen when he was entrusted with the responsibilities of a regular job in a logging camp, and from that time on he continued in the woods until he had passed forty winters all told as a woodsman and part of the time was in business for himself. In 1902 Mr. Wilson moved from his home in the country to Stevens Point and here has invested in considerable real estate, owning four modern homes and one other dwelling. He lives at 537 Ellis Street. He now finds ample employment for his years of semi-leisure in the office of foreman of state roads. Mr. Wilson is an active republican and he and his family are members of the Episcopal Church.





*W. B. Hall*

June 29, 1875, he married Miss Emma D. Warren. Mrs. Wilson was born at Stillwater, Maine, March 22, 1854, daughter of Aaron G. and Matilda Jane (Whitney) Warren. Only a few weeks after her birth her parents came to Plainfield, Washara County, Wisconsin, but after living there seven or eight years moved back to the Pine Tree State in 1863. When they came again to Wisconsin in 1864 they located in Portage County, where they had their home for nearly half a century. In 1909 Mrs. Wilson's parents moved out to Anacortes, Washington, where her father died in 1914, at the advanced age of eighty-one, and her mother in 1909, aged seventy-three. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson. Clyde, Chester, Earl and Myrtle. The latter two are still at home. Chester died in infancy. Clyde is the wife of William Gilden, of Anacortes, Washington, and has three children, named Sylvia, Chester and Edith.

REV. JAMES BLAKE is one of the distinguished Baptist ministers of Wisconsin and has proved his ability not only as an eloquent preacher but as a successful organizer and executive. He is very popular in Stevens Point, where he has been head of the Baptist Church for a number of years, and has brought his church to a point where it is at once one of the most prosperous and most influential in the entire county.

Rev. Mr. Blake is a man of wide experience and has seen a great deal of the world in his life. He was born in Suffolk, England, May 20, 1863, and commenced his literary and theological education in Hulme Cliff College in Derbyshire. His first important work in the ministry was as a missionary to Africa. After that he returned to England, and in 1893 came to the United States, where for a quarter of a century he has been identified with the work of the Baptist denomination. On coming to America Rev. Mr. Blake entered the newly established Divinity School of the University of Chicago, and was the forty-fifth to register as a student in that school. He graduated in 1895, and his first pastorate after leaving university was at Kendall, Wisconsin. In March, 1898, he took up new work at Rhinelander, Wisconsin, where he remained until August 15, 1899. The next five years he spent at West Allis, Wisconsin, in April, 1904, went to Plainfield, Wisconsin, and on December 5, 1904, became pastor of the First Baptist Church of Stevens Point. His first pastorate here continued until 1910, when he accepted the pastorate of Grace Baptist Church of Milwaukee. On April 15, 1912, Rev. Mr. Blake returned to Stevens Point and has since been active head of the First Baptist Church. His congregation has made wonderful progress, especially in the last five years. A fine new brick edifice was dedicated October 29, 1916. Mr. Blake is very popular in the city, a man of liberal views, and has been able to exert a great influence for good in the community. On December 27, 1899, he married at Kendall, Wisconsin, Miss Thema E. Dunlap of Kendall. They have two daughters, Frances Ethel and Florence Guinness.

JOHN J. BUKOLT. Any individual with sufficient money can, if he so desires, dispense charity and thereby secure public applause whether his alms are really beneficial or, as sometimes, quite unwise. How much more, however, to be commended is the man who bravely struggles through early handicaps and later misfortune to succeed in estab-

lishing industries which give profitable employment, not charity, to hundreds of self-respecting workers. This thought comes in considering the career of one of Stevens Point's enterprising and successful business men, John J. Bukolt. His has been an interesting, busy and useful life and illustrates the value of supplementing natural talents with persistent effort and unflinching courage.

John J. Bukolt is a native of Wisconsin and was born January 20, 1869, at Northeim in Manitowoc County. His parents are Ignatz and Tekla (Frosina) Bukolt. They were born in Prussia and after coming to the United States reached Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, in 1865 and have lived there ever since, first clearing up a farm and slowly improving it, but since old age has come upon them they have been comfortably established in the Village of Northeim. Although octogenarians, the father being aged eighty-two years and the mother eighty-four years, they have preserved both physical and mental health, enjoy neighborly life and are faithful attendants to the services of the Polish Catholic Church. They have had five children, namely: Anna, John J., Lucas, deceased, Ladislav, deceased, and Rosa.

Until he was eighteen years old John J. Bukolt remained at home and gave his father assistance on the farm. In the meanwhile he attended the public schools. In 1888, realizing that a knowledge of business methods should be very useful in whatever line of work he should engage, he came to Stevens Point and took a course in the Stevens Point Business College, and worked through the summer for the Stevens Point Manufacturing Company. Finding himself possessed of mechanical talent, Mr. Bukolt selected a vocation in which this could be utilized and developed. For one year he worked in the wood turning department of Rice Brothers' foundry and then went with Calvert & French and remained two years.

From boyhood Mr. Bukolt had shown inventive genius and in 1893 he built a shop of his own and continued his experiments together with his foundry and manufacturing business and carried on work in his own shop until 1896, when he went to Buchan, Michigan, where for one year he was superintendent for the National Manufacturing Company. The failure of this company in the following year was one of the misfortunes that business men must steel themselves to meet, although they often must suffer considerable loss. In 1897 Mr. Bukolt returned to Stevens Point. He had invented an automatic cradle and was determined to manufacture it himself, hence he invested his own means and interested others and the manufacture of this invention was continued until 1904 under the manufacturing name of the American Novelty Company, the plant being at Stevens Point. Business had become congested in the first factory and Mr. Bukolt realized that with the prosperous outlook he would be justified in large expansion. Hence incorporation came about, new capital came in, the manufacturing name became the Automatic Cradle Manufacturing Company, John Jozefkowitz became president, Frank Derezinski, vice president, and Mr. Bukolt, secretary and treasurer of the company. To accommodate his business enterprises Mr. Bukolt has erected immense buildings, one of these being 100 feet wide and 132 feet long, three stories, and another, four stories in height, of brick construction, has dimensions of 80 by 200 feet.

The Bukolt Tire Protector Company, for the manufacture of another of Mr. Bukolt's inventions, was incorporated in 1917, and of



this company he is president and general manager. The Automatic Cradle Company affords constant employment to 140 people and the Bukolt Manufacturing Company employ sixty, therefore fully 200 individuals, all fine workmen, are in the employ of Mr. Bukolt in his industries at Stevens Point, contributing not a little to the city's prosperity. These valuable inventions have a wide sale and a busy section of the manufacturing district is Mr. Bukolt's plant at Nos. 231-235 Third Street, Stevens Point.

Mr. Bukolt was married in 1894 to Miss Philomena Glinecke, of Stevens Point, and they have children as follows: Othillia, Edmond, Roman, Victor and John J., Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Bukolt are members of the Polish Catholic Church.

While Mr. Bukolt is recognized as an able business man, he is also acknowledged a good citizen. He is independent in politics and has no desire for public office, but he is interested in the affairs of his city and endeavors to have a reliable city government and substantial reforms when they are needed. He belongs to the Elks and is also a member of the Rotary Club.

JOHN R. McDONALD for forty years or more has been one of the staid and responsible citizens of Stevens Point. His name is associated with all around substantial character and efficiency and ability in the prosecution of his affairs, and he is a respected as well as the best known citizen of Portage County. But few residents of the county have seen and lived in more diverse parts of the world during their early lives than Mr. McDonald.

His birthplace is of itself a place of special interest. He was born on the Island of St. Helena, where Napoleon was a prisoner. His birth occurred in that outlying part of the British possessions July 16, 1838. His parents were George and Sarah McDonald. His father was a British soldier and spent twenty-five years in the service. When John was a small child his parents were transferred to Grahamstown, Africa, where the mother died in 1845. The next place of service to which the soldier was called was Colesburg, Africa, and it was there that John R. McDonald received his first schooling. Later he returned to Grahamstown and continued his education there. George McDonald served as a non-commissioned officer throughout the Kaffir war in Africa. After that war he returned to England and received his discharge, and then went back to his native City of Edinburgh, Scotland. He died at the Village of Lasswade, Scotland, August 20, 1881. He was born December 17, 1809. For his second wife he married Ruth Stewart, who survived him many years and passed away in 1915 at the age of eighty-eight. By the first marriage there were three children: John R.; George, who died in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1903, at the age of sixty-three, after having served twenty-one years in the British Army; and Eleanor, who married and went to Australia to live. By his second wife the father had three children: Ruth Stewart, Clarence and Ronald.

After his father returned to Edinburgh, John R. McDonald continued his education until he finished the course of the Normal School. The influences of his early boyhood were well calculated to inspire in him a desire for adventure and seeing the world, and at the age of twenty he left home and came to Canada. He lived in Canada about eighteen years and while there laid the foundation of his business

experience. For nine years he was employed in the registrar's office, and after that took up abstracting and conveyancing.

Mr. McDonald came to Stevens Point in 1876 and that city has been his home ever since except one year spent on a farm at Auburndale. In 1871 he had returned to Scotland for a visit. At Stevens Point he assisted Judge Almanson Eaton for three years in preparing abstracts. Then, in 1879, he became a clerk in several of the county offices and in 1880 was appointed deputy county clerk and in the fall of the same year was elected chief of that office and was re-elected county clerk in 1882. In 1884, on retiring from office, he set up in business as an abstractor and conveyancer and continued that work on a very successful scale until 1915, when failing health compelled him to withdraw and he was succeeded by his son. He owns a beautiful residence on St. Louis Avenue, where he has lived for about thirty years.

On December 25, 1867, he married Miss Annie Kay. Mrs. McDonald, who has been a kind and faithful wife and a greatly beloved member of the Stevens Point community for many years, was born at Stratford, Ontario, Canada, September 18, 1846. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald have enjoyed a marriage companionship for over half a century, having celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Christmas of 1917. Her parents, Robert and Barbara (McEwen) Kay, were natives of Scotland and came to Canada, where her mother died in 1856. The last years of her father were spent in Stevens Point with Mrs. McDonald, and Mr. Kay died here in 1897, at the age of eighty-seven. He was survived by five children: Mrs. McDonald; Robert K., now deceased; Mrs. Gibson, of Port Huron, Michigan; James, who died at Stratford, Canada, in 1917; and William of Port Huron, Michigan.

**AUGUST MILIUS.** While not a native of Portage County, practically the entire career of August Milius has been passed within its borders, and here he has received his education and training and secured his success. His life has been devoted to the pursuits of agriculture and his well-directed and industrious labors have resulted in the accumulation of a valuable property and in the gaining and retaining of a place in the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens.

August Milius was born on a farm in Franklin Township, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, March 10, 1852, and is a son of Michael and Barbara (Ferber) Milius, the former a native of Alsace-Lorraine and the latter of Baden, Germany. After the death of his wife, the paternal grandfather of Mr. Milius brought his family to the United States and located in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, where he passed the rest of his life as a pioneer farmer, experiencing many of the hardships of participation in the events of his day and locality, but working energetically toward the establishment of a home for his family. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Milius, Philip Ferber, came to America in 1850, locating with his family in Almond Township, near the Village of Almond, where he passed the remaining years of his life in the pursuits of the soil. Michael Milius and Barbara Ferber grew up and were educated in their respective communities, and were married in Milwaukee County, shortly after which they moved to Milwaukee County, and for a time resided in Franklin Township. That community they left in 1854 to come to Portage County, Mr. Milius pre-

empting land in Almond Township, the same property now owned by his son. Like the other early farmers, he was compelled to overcome many obstacles during the early years and to do without any of the conveniences and comforts of life, as well as many of the things that are considered necessities, but his hard and persistent labors won success for him in the end, and he not only cleared and cultivated his original property, upon which he erected good buildings and made other improvements, but also added considerably to his holdings and at the time of his death was the owner of 400 acres of valuable land. He became one of the well known and influential men of his community, serving for some years on the township board, and was active in the various affairs of his locality, particularly in church matters, he and his father-in-law having been largely instrumental in the establishment of the early church at Almond. When he died his community lost a valuable and highly respected citizen.

August Milius, the only child of his parents, was educated in the district schools of Almond Township, whence he was brought as a child for two years, and has always made his home on the old place. He was thoroughly trained in all the arts and devices of the farmer, and early in life began to look upon his vocation as something to be studied, so that he has always endeavored to keep himself fully abreast of the advancements made in agriculture and has been a devotee of modern methods and improved machinery. His finely developed 360 acres are devoted to general farming principally, although Mr. Milius has had much success as a specialist in the growing of potatoes, the soil of his farm being particularly and peculiarly adapted for the cultivation of tubers.

Mr. Milius was married in 1877 to Miss Minnie Edler, who was born on a farm in Plymouth Township, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, a daughter of Henry Edler, an agriculturist of that locality. To this union there have been born seven children, all of whom are living: Henry, George, Marie, William, Alfred, Wesley and Alice. The members of this family belong to the German Methodist Episcopal Church. Fraternally, Mr. Milius is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes an interest in the meetings of the local lodge. As a citizen he has taken an active part in township affairs, having served as a member of the board for some time, and the capable manner in which he has discharged his duties as treasurer of the school board, which position he occupies at this time, has retained him in office for many years. He is known as a progressive, thorough going citizen, reliable in business and loyal in his friendships, and as an agriculturist whose modern methods exemplify the awakened spirit of this fertile agricultural region.

HON. ORESTES A. CROWELL. In business circles of southern Portage County there are few names which are better or more favorably known than that of Orestes A. Crowell. Successively as merchant, banker and agriculturist he has been identified with the interests of this locality, and particularly at Almond, in such a prominent and honorable way that there are few enterprises with which he does not come into touch. Not alone in business matters is he a leader, but also in the public life of the community, having been twice a member of the State Legislature and filled other offices with honor and ability. In both financial and civic affairs his record is an exceedingly creditable one,

and he is justly accounted as being representative of the highest type of useful citizenship.

Hon. Orestes A. Crowell was born at Almond, Portage County, Wisconsin, October 5, 1872, and belongs to a family which has been located here for more than half a century. His father was George G. Crowell, who was born in Maine and came as a single man to Almond, Wisconsin, in 1867, in November of which year, in partnership with John M. Smart, he started a general store at this point under the firm style of Smart & Crowell. The partnership was a successful and mutually agreeable one, both men being industrious, progressive and possessed of modern ideas, and the association continued until 1888, a period of twenty-one years, when it was dissolved. Mr. Crowell from that time forward carried on business alone, and was active almost until the time of his death, in 1891. Mr. Crowell was an active republican, but was more of a worker for his friends and his party than in behalf of any personal ambitions, his business activities occupying his attention to such an extent that he did not care for the added responsibilities of public position. He was a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Almond and continued to be connected with that order during the rest of his life, taking much enjoyment in its meetings and features. He was married at this place to Miss Hannah Louise Achilles, who was born in Canada, a daughter of the late Alvaro Copp Achilles, a sketch of whose career will be found elsewhere in this work, and they became the parents of five children: Orestes A., Edna L., Lula, Elbridge G. and George, of whom Edna L. and Lula are deceased.

Orestes A. Crowell attended the public schools of Almond, from which he was duly graduated, and then took a course of two years in the University of Wisconsin, pursuing a classical course. His college career was brought to a sudden termination by the death of his father, and he at once gave up his studies to return to his home, where with his younger brother, Elbridge G. Crowell, he took charge of their father's business. The young men made a success of their operations, both being possessed of much of the elder man's ability and following out his policies of honesty and straightforward dealing, and continued the business until 1915, when they disposed of their interests therein. In the meantime, in 1901, Orestes A. Crowell had become definitely interested in finance, having been one of the organizers in that year of the Portage County Bank at Almond. He was elected at the time of the organization of this institution and still continues to direct its affairs and polity from that position, having succeeded in making this one of the substantial institutions of the county and one in which the general public has every confidence. In 1908 the institution erected its present banking house, an edifice which does credit to the thriving little city in which it is located. Mr. Crowell's abundant energies and fine abilities also find an outlet in general farming and stockraising on his well-cultivated and valuable property located not far from Almond, but across the line into Waushara County. For a number of years he has been interested in politics and has been one of the most influential men of the republican party in the southern part of Portage County. He was the first president of the Village of Almond, serving in that capacity for three consecutive terms, during which time the community grew and prospered and benefitted by a number of greatly-needed improvements. From 1896 until 1901 he served as postmaster,

and for thirteen years he demonstrated his friendship for advanced educational facilities by his work as a member of the school board. In 1908 he was elected to the State Legislature, and in 1910 succeeded himself as a member of that distinguished body, his work in which was decidedly beneficial to the interests of his district and his constituents. He is now acting as a member of the local exemption board. Mr. Crowell is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a thirty-second degree Mason. With his family he attends the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Crowell was married in 1899 to Miss Genevieve Webster, of Stevens Point, Wisconsin, daughter of Charles E. Webster, and at her death she left one child, Webster. Mr. Crowell was again married in 1906, when he was united with Miss Anna Bell McGregor, of Hancock, Wisconsin, daughter of Donald McGregor. Mr. McGregor, who was a pioneer of Michigan, died in 1917, at the age of eighty-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Crowell are the parents of two children, Kenneth and Kathryn.

ALVARO COPP ACHILLES. Among the men who came to Portage County during the '50s there were to be found many of sturdy and venturesome nature. The condition of a large part of the county at that time was not encouraging to those who were not willing and able to furnish hardships, and the necessary labor for a man to win success did not prove attractive to any save the ambitious and industrious, who were glad to accept the opportunities offered for the hewing out of a home and the establishment of a business or starting of a farm. Those who were not willing to work hard and to face conditions with courage and faith soon found that this was no place for them and accordingly withdrew and returned to the more settled communities, to await such time when their more sturdy and industrious brothers would have effected changes more to their liking.

Prominent among the men who came at that period in the history of Portage County, who came to remain, and who had the courage, strength of character and industry of spirit to assist not only himself but those about him and the community in general was the late Alvaro Copp Achilles. Mr. Achilles did not come here in the untried flush of early youth, but as a man who had much experience and whose life had known well much of hard work. He was born in Canada, in 1824, and was only eleven years of age when his father died, so that he was early called upon to fend for himself and his education was somewhat limited, although he attended the public schools and later, through observation and intelligent reading, managed to make himself a well informed man. He was married in his native country to Miss Drusilla H. Traver, also born there, and for some time was engaged in farming and other pursuits, with but indifferent success. When gold was discovered in California in 1849 he contracted the fever and was one of those to make the weary, perilous journey across the burning prairies to the promised Eldorado. Mr. Achilles spent several years in the Golden State, but like many others found that it was a land of largely unfulfilled promises, and he accordingly sought his Canadian home again, making the return journey by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Upon his arrival he resumed his farming operations, but became dissatisfied with his lack of progress, and accordingly decided to seek

a new field in which to center his activities. In 1855, therefore, he came to Portage County, Wisconsin, making the journey principally by ox-team, and shortly thereafter located on a farm on the Stevens Point wagon road in Almond Township, which he purchased from the United States Government. Here he set to work to make improvements, and after many hardships and discouragements eventually managed to clear up and cultivate his land, to the successful operation of which he devoted the remainder of his life. His death occurred in 1902, after he had rounded out a worthy, honorable and useful career. Mrs. Achilles, who was born in 1826, passed away on the farm when sixty-eight years of age. They were the parents of seven children, namely: Winthrop, whose death occurred before the family left Canada; Harrison, who died in Portage County; Ezra, who passed away on his farm, which just adjoined that of his father in Almond Township; Hannal Louise, who became the wife of George G. Crowell, and was the mother of Hon. Orestes A. Crowell, the Almond banker and former member of the Legislature; Emma J.; Almira E.; and Ella Luella, deceased.

During the early days Mr. Achilles did the greater part of his trading for merchandise at the store of a Mr. Samuelson, who conducted the establishment at Almond where later Mr. Achilles' grandson was to be so successful as a merchant. For the most part Mr. Achilles was a general farmer, although during the great boom in hops, and until this boom ended in disaster, he, like many others, planted his land to this product. While he was a man always busy with his own important affairs, he could always be relied upon to assist movements for the general welfare, and much of the road work during the early days in this section was the handiwork of his strong and capable muscles. He was a republican, and while he did not care to pose as a public figure, he did his share in shouldering the responsibilities of service and acted as township clerk and school officer on several occasions. He was a charter member of Plover Lodge of Masons, and as a religious man he belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his worthy wife was also a consistent member and generous supporter.

HON. WILLIAM L. ARNOTT. A life of distinctive usefulness to Portage County was that of the late William L. Arnott, who for many years was one of the most influential citizens of this community. One of the villages of the county bears his name. He was a member of the Legislature, filled other official stations, and was a highly successful farmer.

He was born in Yates County, New York, September 5, 1832, and died at his home in Stevens Point in 1907, at the age of seventy-five. He was educated in public schools in his native state, and in 1856 he married at Bath, Steuben County, New York, Miss Mary J. Walker. She was born at Bath, March 25, 1832, and now attained the venerable age of eighty-six years.

In 1864 Mr. and Mrs. Arnott came to Portage County and in Plover Township located on a farm. Later a railroad station was established there and a little community grew up which was named Arnott. Mr. Arnott in 1876 was elected a member of the Legislature, and for a number of years served on the county board. He was an active republican.

Mrs. Arnott, though in advanced years, has many interesting recollections of early days in Portage County. She was well educated, attending school at Bath in Steuben County, New York, and for some years was a teacher. She and her husband on coming to Portage County traveled by stage coach from Berlin, Wisconsin, there being no railroad in those days. She went through many pioneer experiences and did her part as a housewife and mother toward the building up of the community. The Arnotts are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnott had two daughters, Lillian and Grace. Lillian was educated in the public schools, graduated from the Stevens Point State Normal School, and for many years was a successful teacher. She taught in the eighth grade of the Stevens Point schools for seventeen consecutive years. For a number of years she has been a member of the Progressive Club of Stevens Point. The daughter Grace attended high school and the State Normal School, taught for some years, and for five years she took personal management of the homestead farm, which was later sold. After that she did office work in Minneapolis, but her home is at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, with her mother and sister at 120 Reserve Street. The mother and daughters erected one of the comfortable homes of the county seat in 1914.

HENRY ANDERSON. One of the families that is well and favorably known in agricultural circles of Portage County is that which bears the name of Anderson and which has been represented in Alban Township for more than a half a century. One of the present generation who is representative of the class that has spent its entire life on the farm it now occupies is Henry Anderson, a general farmer and stock raiser and a man of broad and comprehensive knowledge of agricultural matters.

Mr. Anderson was born on the farm which he now owns in Alban Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, November 24, 1869, and is a son of Hans Peter and Dorothea (Klinkee) Anderson, natives of Denmark. His paternal grandparents were born in that country, and as they never came to the United States but rounded out their careers in the land of their birth he knows but little of them, save that they were fruit growers by vocation and honorable and upright people. The maternal grandparents of Mr. Anderson, Hans and Bodil Klinkee, were also born in Denmark, and had been married for some years when they came to the United States in 1857. From New York they made their way to Gills Landing by boat, completing their journey by foot and team to Scandinavia, Wisconsin, but remained at the latter place only a short time before continuing on to Alban Township, where they settled among the Indians. Here they went through the usual experiences and hardships incidental to the life of the pioneer upon the front, and Mr. Anderson's mother, who was then a child of nine years, well remembers her father setting off with his butter and eggs to market at Scandinavia, making the journey on foot and returning with a sack of flour on his back. For the family's first clock, a huge, old-fashioned affair, he walked to Stevens Point and back, twenty miles distant. Mr. Klinkee passed the remaining years of his life in agricultural pursuits. In his later years he went to live with a son at Neenah, with whom he spent two years, then returning to the

farm, upon which he died. Their daughter Dorothea was the first white female child to reside in Alban Township.

Hans Peter Anderson was a youth when he immigrated to the United States, coming here to join a sister, Mrs. Carrie Anderson, in Alban Township. After some years of work and saving he bought "Fox River" land, the same property that his son now lives on, this continuing to be his home from the time of his marriage until his death in 1906. Mrs. Anderson still survives and resides with her son on the home place. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson had two children: Henry and Samuel J. The latter, whose death occurred when he was forty-three years of age, was always a resident of Alban Township, where he was engaged in farming and was a successful business man. He also wielded influence in his community and held a number of township offices, including those of treasurer, chairman and clerk. His farm was located in the same vicinity as that of his brother.

Henry Anderson received his education in the home schools and grew up amid agricultural surroundings, so that when he came to man's estate he chose farming as his life work. He worked with his father, clearing and improving the home place and has to his credit the clearing of about what is now done in this direction. The farm is a tract of 160 acres, consisting of fertile and productive soil, which under proper scientific treatment yields large and full crops. Mr. Anderson is a farmer who understands his business and who is capable of combining scientific agriculture with good business management, the whole forming conditions under which he has grown prosperous. He is interested in the creamery at Rosholt, of which his father was one of the organizers, and has other interests. In business circles he bears the reputation of being a man of sterling integrity, while as a citizen he has shown himself to be public spirited.

OLE J. OLSTAD. It has taken many years of hard work and careful management to bring about the fine agricultural condition found all over Portage County, and no one knows this better than Ole J. Olstad, one of Alban Township's pioneer settlers and substantial farmers. When he came to Portage County heavy timber covered acres and acres of land that is now richly cultivated and only here and there had enterprising settlers yet made much headway in clearing and breaking up their land, the latter work being mainly done with oxen. Mr. Olstad was born in Norway, July 5, 1848, and came to America in 1881. He was the oldest of eleven children born to his parents, who were John and Ingeborg (Gaphol) Olstad, who came to Portage County, Wisconsin, in 1886 and died in Alban Township.

In his native land Ole J. Olstad went to school and helped his father on the home farm, but the family was large and his services were not really necessary and as he grew older and from time to time heard much of the wider opportunities to be secured in the United States he determined to leave Norway and seek a home across the ocean in the section where many of his countrymen had already become well established. Therefore in 1881 he made the journey and located first in Minnesota, but the farming prospects there did not entirely satisfy him and he came to Wisconsin and soon afterward bought a tract of eighty acres of wild land situated in Alban Township, which acreage he has since doubled and now has a fine property of 120 acres.

Methods of farming have changed somewhat since those early



days, but even now only a specially designed tractor would probably surpass the working strength of the great oxen with which Mr. Olstad cleared his first land purchase and put his acres under cultivation. For about eight years he depended largely on his ox-teams for farm work, but then supplanted them with horses, and with the help of farm machinery that was not invented when he was a boy now operates his land without undue labor. He devotes his cleared land to general farming and is interested to some extent in dairying. He has greatly improved his property, gradually putting up all the substantial buildings and has everything very comfortable around him.

Mr. Olstad was married in 1884 to Miss Carrie Lee, who was born in Norway and died in Wisconsin. She is survived by the following children: John, who resides at home; Ida, whose married name is Kjer; Olga, who is Mrs. Rusta; Augusta, who married a Mr. Dalan; and Ingomand, who lives with his father. Mr. Olstad and his family belong to the Alban Norwegian Lutheran Church, the oldest in the township, which was established when but few Norwegian settlers had located here and has always been well supported. Mr. Olstad is one of the stockholders of the Farmers Produce Company at Rosholt, Wisconsin, and also of the Rosholt Creamery. He has never taken a very active part in politics but is capable of doing a large amount of intelligent thinking and casts his citizen vote accordingly.

ISAAC O. BREKKE. Among the men of industrious habit and peaceful intent, who came with his family from Norway, to Wisconsin in 1873, no one is more kindly remembered in Portage County than the late Ole A. Brekke, the father of Isaac O. Brekke, who is one of Alban Township's substantial farmers and representative citizens.

Isaac O. Brekke was born in Norway, March 26, 1858. His parents were Ole A. and Mary (Hobelstad) Brekke, who were born, reared and married in Norway. Seeking better industrial conditions and wider opportunity for securing a comfortable and permanent home, they came to America in 1873, with the intention of settling in Wisconsin, where many of their countrymen were prospering. After reaching this state they came directly to Waupaca County, and after a short time to Sharon Township in Portage County. By 1874 Ole Brekke had found land that suited him as to location and price, and in that year he bought 160 acres in Alban Township, which is a part of his son Isaac's farm. The pioneer hardships that the family encountered they bore patiently, for they had been expected, and each succeeding year found them fewer and the time came when their industry and thrift were rewarded. Although the present scientific methods of farming had not been adopted, the persevering industry and natural good sense of farmers like Ole Brekke soon changed the wilderness into productive fields and comfortable homes. In many ways Ole Brekke was a fine character. Not only was he honest and upright in his business undertakings, setting an example of prudence and industry, but he was concerned about the establishment of schools and churches in this pioneer region, and was one of the organizers of the first church in Alban Township, one that is still in existence, and was one of the small body of leading men that worked together and secured the proper adjustment of school districts. He was the father of eight children, Isaac O. being the fourth in order of birth, the others

being: Gertrude, who is deceased, Parry, Andrew, who is deceased, Mary, Anna and Peter, twins, the former being deceased, and Minnie.

Isaac O. Brekke was fifteen years old when he accompanied his parents to the United States. After the family settled on the pioneer farm in Alban Township, Portage County, he gave his father assistance but also endeavored to further his education and during the first years walked three miles in the morning in order to reach the nearest school-house and three miles in the evening to his home, where, doubtless, tasks awaited him that would have discouraged many youths less ambitious and industrious. He has always lived on the old place and to its original 160 acres has added and now has 180 acres, a finely cultivated and well improved farm. Mr. Brekke has kept himself well informed as to the value of new methods, but his soil has needed little stimulating and under his experienced care is satisfactorily productive. He has taken much interest in the growing of good stock and makes a specialty of Guernsey cattle.

Isaac O. Brekke was married in 1893 to Miss Mary Iverson, who was born in New Hope Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, and is a daughter of Simon Iverson, who was an early settler there. Mr. and Mrs. Brekke have had three children: Alger, Myrtle and Irvin, the last named being the only survivor. Mr. and Mrs. Brekke are members of the Alban Lutheran Church that his father helped to found. While not particularly active in politics, Mr. Brekke is an earnest and intelligent citizen and at all times is ready to co-operate with others in sound and sensible undertakings that promise to be beneficial to all alike in the township, but has never accepted any political office except that of township assistant supervisor. When the project of organizing a creamery at Rosholt was broached Mr. Brekke considered it a wise movement, one that would be helpful to the farmers in this section, and he assisted in getting it started and is one of the stockholders.

**WILLIAM MOLL.** When William Moll became one of the leading merchants at Stevens Point he brought to his own business the deep knowledge of mercantile affairs that he had gained through a continuous experience of fifteen years in this line. Mr. Moll, who is president of the well known firm of Moll & Glennon, and at the head of the largest mercantile establishment in this city, has really been a merchant since he was eleven years old, and this commercial talent, developed through exercise, has made him in spite of early handicaps one of the big merchants and prominent men of this part of Portage County.

William Moll was born at West Bend in Washington County, Wisconsin, October 4, 1873. His parents were Jacob and Anna (Abberderies) Moll, the former of whom was born in Austria in 1830, and the latter in Germany in 1834. They were married in the latter country, and in 1863 came to the United States to better their condition and lived for a number of years on a farm near West Bend, Wisconsin. In 1874 the family came to Stevens Point and here the father died in 1875, leaving a tract of land, unproductive at that time, that he had acquired in Portage County. The mother was left with six children. Although she had to contend with many hardships in those early days, she was a strong and resourceful woman and her children remember her with the deepest affection and appreciation. Her death occurred

in 1909. The children were: Luke, Catherine, Mary, Lizzie, Carl and William, Luke, Lizzie and William being the only survivors.

William Moll attended the parish school until he was ten years old and then ended his book education. In his older brother, Luke, he had an industrious example and as soon as an opportunity came he went to work with a will, not only to provide for his own necessities but to assist his brother in taking care of the family. Both he and Luke became clerks in the mercantile house of the late Gustav Ferdinand Andrae, where they had methodical training. Through provident saving William Moll accumulated capital and in 1902 entered into a partnership under the firm name of Moll & Rothman, which was conducted as a general store for one year, when Frank M. Glennon bought Mr. Rothman's interest and since that time the style has been Moll & Glennon, and since the incorporation Mr. Moll has been president of the company.

The Moll & Glennon dry goods house is located at Nos. 436-438 Main Street, Stevens Point, in a commodious building with dimensions of 30 by 180 feet, fitted up in modern style, and the firm carries the most complete as well as the largest stocks of ladies' ready to wear garments and fine dry goods in the city. Their trade extends all over the county and their reputation for reliability, seasonable goods and honorable business methods cannot be excelled. Mr. Moll has additional interests and is a stockholder in the Citizens National Bank of Stevens Point.

William Moll was married in 1902, to Miss Florence Booth, of Stevens Point. Mrs. Moll died in the following year.

In politics Mr. Moll is a democrat. He has never served in any public office because he has no taste for political life, but is loyal in his support of others who come up to the measure of his judgment. He was reared a Catholic and is a faithful member of St. Stephen's Catholic Church at this place. He is a member of the fraternal order of Catholic Knights and belongs also to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In addition to his Stevens Point residence Mr. Moll has a beautiful summer home, situated on the bank of the Wisconsin River in Carson Township, three and one half miles from this city, where he has made improvements and has two cottages. He stands high in general esteem as an honorable as well as successful business man and loyal and trustworthy citizen.

HUGH C. ELLIOTT is a railroad man, young in years but a veteran in experience, and in the performance of his duties as a locomotive engineer on the Soo line came to Stevens Point two or three years ago and has made himself an interested and public spirited factor in that community, where he is well known.

Mr. Elliott is a native of Wisconsin, born in Eau Claire August 14, 1882, son of Hugh M. and Olivia (Curtis) Elliott. His maternal grandmother, Isabel Curtis, a second time a widow, is still living at the age of ninety years, a resident of Chippewa Falls. Hugh M. Elliott was born in New York State in 1847 and his wife was born in 1852. When a young man he moved to Wisconsin and settled at Eau Claire, clerked in a store there, married, and for many years had charge of the Valley Lumber Company. He is now living retired. He is a member of the Masonic Order. He and his wife had five children,

all living, named Jay W., Joseph, Hugh C., Laura Belle and Byron Curtis.

Hugh C. Elliott was educated in the public schools of Eau Claire and from high school went to work as an employe of the American Express Company in the Eau Claire offices. He was with the express company about seven years. His ambition was to get into the active operating department of the railway, and his first experience in that line was as fireman for six months on a railroad running out of Omaha. Then for a year and a half he was connected with the John S. Owen Lumber Company, and in June, 1910, became connected with the Soo line as a locomotive fireman, and in 1916 had the satisfaction of promotion to the post of engineer and is now driving one of the leading trains on the Soo out of Stevens Point. Mr. Elliott resides at 440 Church Street in Stevens Point. He is affiliated with Eau Claire Lodge No. 112, Free and Accepted Masons, is a republican in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In March, 1909, he married Miss Cressie Carter, of Owen, Wisconsin. They have one son, Hugh Carter Elliott, born April 24, 1910.

ANDREW MAGNUS NELSON. When the Nelson family set sail from Port Porsgrund, Norway, April 20, 1857, the seas were comparatively safe even for a slow-going sailing vessel, and their friends at home had no fears as to their safe arrival, after thirty-eight days on the water, in their port of destination, the Harbor of Quebec. This little party was made up of Andrew Magnus Nelson, then a youth of fourteen years and now one of Portage County's capitalists, and his father and brother, James J. Nelson.

Andrew Magnus Nelson was born April 14, 1843, near Porsgrund, Norway. His parents were Nels A. and Ingeborg (Toldnes) Nelson. His mother died when he was three years old. He had a brother, Isaac N., who was born in Norway in 1827, became a sailor and in 1849 immigrated to Wisconsin and became a farmer near Scandanavia in Waupaca County, where he died at the age of eighty-eight years. The Nelsons landed safely at Quebec after a voyage of about five weeks, and there took a boat to Montreal and Toronto, from there went by rail to Detroit and from there to Chicago, reaching that place June 10, 1857. They were bound for Scandanavia to join their kindred in Waupaca County, Wisconsin, and from Chicago they yet had a long journey before they ended their travels. The contrast between transportation facilities in the old days and now is interesting. By boat from Chicago they reached Milwaukee, where they again took a railroad train, on the newly built Northwestern, to Fond du Lac, which was then the terminus, and then reached Oshkosh by boat and on another boat reached North Port on June 13, 1857, when they found themselves within thirty miles of Scandanavia, Waupaca County, which distance they covered on foot.

The father of Mr. Nelson subsequently bought a farm in the vicinity of Scandanavia and built a substantial log house, a very comfortable dwelling, and here he spent the rest of his life engaged in cultivating and improving his land.

Before leaving Norway Andrew Magnus Nelson had attended school and for his age was well informed, and after coming to Wisconsin he took advantage of every opportunity to improve. He remembers attending a school kept by a Mrs. Inwerson, between Scan-



*A. M. Wilson.*

danavia and Iola, later attended in New Hope Township in Portage County and other schools, and in the meantime, in 1858 taught school and one of his pupils was Judge Murat, a well known citizen of Portage County. He was very ambitious and in spite of difficulties managed to attend the Waupaca High School in 1862 and 1863, when Duncan McGregor was his teacher.

In the spring of 1860 Mr. Nelson came to Amherst and entered the store of John C. Crawford as a clerk, the owner of the store being Abram Gorden, of Waupaca, and in a short time Mr. Nelson became a clerk in Mr. Gorden's establishment in that city, and later was a clerk for Sorenson & Stetson. On May 28, 1866, Mr. Nelson came back to Amherst and bought the Gorden store there that was situated on the present site of the International Bank, and was associated in business with his brother, James J., until 1870 under the firm style of A. M. & J. J. Nelson, when the partnership was dissolved, A. M. retaining the old store and J. J. having bought a store of his own. Mr. Nelson continued in the mercantile business until 1880, when he rented his store property and embarked in the real estate business, having his offices in the store building. In 1893 Mr. Nelson, with Benjamin and Emmons Burr, organized the International Bank of Amherst and served as vice president until the death of Mr. Burr, after which he served as president for the ten succeeding years, when he resigned, as he had removed his residence to Stevens Point in the meanwhile.

On August 1, 1895, Mr. Nelson came to Stevens Point and bought his fine residence at No. 912 Clark Street. He then transferred his real estate office to this place and has continued to handle realty ever since and now owns about 3,000 acres in Portage County, 150 being in the vicinity of Stevens Point, and he estimates that he has bought and sold during his business years from 30,000 to 40,000 acres of land and in many sales has brought a large amount of capital into the county.

In politics Mr. Nelson has always been a republican. In 1883 he was elected chairman of Amherst Township, and was made treasurer of the Portage County Fair Association. He was serving as clerk of the Amherst School Board when the new schoolhouse was built that subsequently was destroyed by fire. In 1884 he represented the Town of Amherst as chairman and a member of the County Board of Supervisors at the annual meeting in November. He was appointed chairman of the committee on illegal assessments and also a member of the committee on equalization. He still owns property at Amherst.

Mr. Nelson was married in January, 1865, to Miss Isophene H. Smith, who died on the birth of their son, Henry I., July 20, 1866. The mother was reared at Buffalo, New York and her mother was a sister of Victor M. Rice, who was once superintendent of public instruction in the State of New York. Henry I. Nelson attended the public schools of Harvard, Illinois, while living with his maternal grandmother, and afterward the Amherst High School. He then entered his father's real estate office and remained for a time and then had charge of the job office of the Vermilion Iron Journal, a newspaper published at Tower, Minnesota. Later he became associate editor in name but editor in fact. He then went to New Orleans and in January, 1894, accepted the superintendency of the Bradstreet Agency at Mobile, Alabama. He was a young man of brilliant parts and succeeded in everything he undertook, but illness fell upon him in the

South which compelled him to return home and his lamented death occurred in February, 1895.

Mr. Nelson's second marriage was to Miss Agnes Boss, of Lanark, Wisconsin. Her father was a native of Boston and it is claimed that that great city was named in honor of his forefathers. Mrs. Nelson died March 14, 1875, having been the mother of three children, namely: Elizabeth Maud, who married Christian Houff, of Seattle, Washington, and they have one son, Harold Allen; Nellie Ernestine, who married W. L. Bullock, of Valier, Teton County, Montana, has one daughter, Marjorie; Agnes, who was reared by her aunt, Mrs. Fenton, died at Amherst in early womanhood. In 1882 Mr. Nelson was married to Julia Nelson, and the children born to this marriage are as follows: Beulah G., who died November 17, 1918, was the wife of Benjamin Hughes, and left two sons, Donald Loomis and David A.; Minnie E., who is the wife of F. H. Hughes, and they have three children, Eleanor, Nelson Edgerton and Robert Francis; and Winnifred Rosamond, who is a teacher in the State Normal School at Stevens Point.

For several years Mr. Nelson was manager and vice president of the Arkansas Land Company of Wisconsin, a syndicate that controlled 90,000 acres of land in Arkansas. In his large realty dealings Mr. Nelson has shown great business ability. His transactions have resulted in many changes of ownership but in no case have questionable methods ever been employed and as a general proposition Portage County has greatly profited through his enterprise and business activity. While Mr. Nelson is thus widely known and deemed trustworthy, he also is held in esteem as a good citizen, one who has always lent his influence to promote worthy enterprises in the county and has given hearty support to all measures designed to assist the public schools.

**GEORGE HENRY ALTENBERG.** After years of hard work in any industry it is very comforting to feel able to voluntarily retire from business cares when one so desires, and this state of ease is often a well earned recompense for a long period of both body and mental strain that was endured in order to secure a competency. Many of the retired residents of Portage County are old lumbermen who spent years of their early manhood in the woods. They were young men of physical vigor and endurance, else the logging industry could never have become such an important one in Wisconsin as it long has been and still is, although conditions are somewhat different in modern days. One of the well known retired lumbermen now residing in his comfortable home at Stevens Point is George Henry Altenberg, who is also an honored survivor of the Civil war.

George Henry Altenberg was born at Allegany in Cattaraugus County, New York, January 27, 1843. His parents were John and Isabel (Arthur) Altenberg. The father was born in Genesee County, New York, August 12, 1810, and the mother in the same state in 1820. At an early day the paternal grandfather of Mr. Altenberg left Germany for the United States. He was accompanied by a brother, who died during the voyage and was buried at sea. The grandfather reached New York and later settled in Genesee County and reared his family there, the names of his sons being: George, William, Henry, Daniel and John.

John Altenberg grew up on his father's farm and later went to work in the lumber regions on the Alleghany River. In 1856 he brought his family to Wisconsin. They settled in Portage County on a farm he bought in Plover Township, situated about two and a half miles from the village of Plover. It was wild land at that time but he was strong and industrious and in the course of time, despite many unavoidable pioneer hardships, he managed to clear his land and with the help of his sons subsequently put it under cultivation. He spent the rest of his life on that farm and died in 1895. He was an honest, hard-working man and was respected by all who knew him. Politically he was a republican and both he and wife were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They had the following children: John, Isaiah, George Henry, James, Isabel, Daniel, Bragg, Worth, Scott, Ross, Charles and Frederick, the two last named dying in infancy.

George Henry Altenberg was thirteen years old when he accompanied his parents to Wisconsin and he had some schooling after the home was established in Plover Township. He remained with his father until he was seventeen years old and then started out for himself, as there were other sons to give the father assistance on the farm. Being strong and sturdy, the prospect of working hard as a logger pleased him, for the wages were good and he was accustomed, as farm youths were then, to out-door life in all kind of weather. Mr. Altenberg worked for the Hutchinson Brothers in the lumber business in Eau Pleine Township, Portage County, and continued to work on the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers until 1875, variously engaged, however, and after leaving the employ of others was in a logging business for himself for some years, and in 1887 engaged in the manufacture of lumber and continued in business until 1911, when he retired. In 1871 he settled in Eau Pleine Township and worked with the surveying party for the construction of a branch of the Wisconsin Valley Railroad, and he and wife had the honor of being the first passengers that boarded the train that made its first trip out of Dancy.

Mr. Altenberg was married in 1866 to Miss Erminda Whittaker, who was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, in 1849. Her parents were Allen and Sarah (Snyder) Whittaker, who came to Portage County, Wisconsin, in 1863 and settled in Plover Township in 1864. The father of Mrs. Altenberg was born August 13, 1810, and died in Plover Township in June, 1895, the mother of Mrs. Altenberg dying in 1889. To Mr. and Mrs. Altenberg three sons were born: Miner H., Charles W. and Holmes A. Miner H. Altenberg is one of the leading business men of Dancy, Wisconsin, is the owner of the creamery there and a prosperous merchant and produce buyer. He was married to Miss Jennie Conoff, and they have the following children: Gladys, George John, Marian, Allen, Harold, Edith, Madge, Margaret and Lucile. The second son, Charles W. Altenberg, is a substantial farmer of Portage County and resides two miles south of Dancy. He married Miss Nettie Ryan and they have had four children; Fern, Earl, Bernice, deceased, and Doris. Holmes A. Altenberg, the youngest son, is a resident of Eau Pleine, where he has been more or less associated with his father in the retail lumber business and which he has continued alone since his father's retirement. He married Miss Maud Calvert, and they have one child, Vivian.

In 1864 Mr. Altenberg became a soldier in the Civil war and con-



tinued in the Union Army until the close of the Rebellion as a member of Company B, Forty-sixth Wisconsin Infantry. He went through some of the hardships and dangers that face soldiers but was fortunate enough to escape all serious injury. He is a valued member of the Grand Army of the Republic and when possible attends the meetings of his post. He has always been a republican in his political views but has never been anxious to hold office. At one time, while living in Marathon County, Wisconsin, he was elected chairman of the Bergen Township Board. Mr. Altenberg has been a resident of Stevens Point since 1902 and owns his residence at No. 637 Strong Avenue.

**JAMES A. BREMMER.** A resident of Stevens Point more than thirty years, and of Portage County for seventy years, since early childhood, in fact, James A. Bremmer would in many ways constitute an ideal representative both as an actor and a witness of the history of Portage County through all its varying changes and developments from pioneer days to the present. His own career has been an exceedingly creditable one, but much also must be said of other members of his family, including his parents, who were among the first pioneer settlers of this wilderness region and also of his brothers and of his own children, who are now bearing worthily their responsibilities in life.

Before the family came to Wisconsin the old home was Fort Covington, New York, where James A. Bremmer was born February 16, 1843. His parents were George and Nancy M. (Danforth) Bremmer. The father was born at Allburg, Vermont, in January, 1800, and the mother was born at Fort Covington in Franklin County, New York, in 1808. They married in Franklin County, and in May, 1847, came west to Plover, Portage County, Wisconsin. George Bremmer constructed the fifth frame building in Portage County. He built it at Plover and the old structure is still standing and today has the distinction of being the oldest frame house in the entire county. This old homestead, surrounded by twenty acres of land, was the home of George Bremmer and wife during all their remaining years and their children grew up in the same locality. He also took a claim in Stockton Township, pre-empting there before the land was put on the market and about 1848 he bought it from the Government. He was able to pay for this land from money he made as a surveyor. His farm comprised 133 acres in Stockton Township, and farming was his chief pursuit. Politically he was a whig and republican, and always took a great deal of satisfaction in having been able to vote for and help elect both Harrisons to the presidency. He was active in the Baptist Church, but late in life both he and his wife joined the Methodist Church. The first Sabbath school in Portage County was organized by Mrs. George Bremmer in her home. That was in 1849. The pioneer minister of those days was a Rev. Mr. Hyde. Mrs. George Bremmer was an exceedingly devout Christian, and while busied with the cares of her large family and with making a home in a new country she never forgot her obligations to the church. George Bremmer died in 1890, lacking only a few days of his ninetieth birthday. His wife passed away in March, 1884. Their oldest child, Delia, died when four years of age. The second, George D., became a pilot on the Wisconsin River and was drowned in August, 1856, at the age of

twenty-four. Wallace was also a river pilot, and died in the spring of 1860, at the age of twenty-six, a victim of consumption. Sheridan, in 1861, enlisted in Company E of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry and was in active service till the close of the war, was captured at the Battle of Altoona Block House, and endured the hardships of a southern prison for seven months, and after the war returned to Wisconsin and died at Appleton in this state in 1912, at the age of seventy-two. Clara, who was born in 1841, died in Nebraska in the spring of 1912, at the age of seventy-one, the wife of B. F. Felch, a pioneer of Portage County. James A. was the sixth of the children. Helen Elizabeth died in May, 1906, at the age of sixty-one. The two youngest were Juliette and a son, twins, the latter dying in infancy and the other at the age of two years.

James A. Bremmer was just four years old when the family came to Plover, Wisconsin. Two or three years later he went to school at the first school established at Plover or in the entire county. His teacher there was Mary J. Wiley and he afterwards had instruction from Fannie Waterman. Later for one summer he was a student in the Township of Stockton and spent a winter term in the Town of Stockton. In the meantime he was developing his strength by work on a farm, his principal duties being driving oxen.

When he reached the age of seventeen, in the fall of 1861, he was not behind his brothers and other members of the family in taking up arms for their country. He enlisted in Company E of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry, and saw active service for one year, both of his officers being uncles, Captain Bremmer of his company, and Col. James S. Alban of the regiment. The captain was William Bremmer, who raised 112 men for the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry and left Milwaukee at the head of his company in March, 1862, and was wounded at the Battle of Shiloh. The next seven months he spent as a prisoner of war, and on being released he returned to Wisconsin and raised another company for the Fifth Wisconsin Volunteers. On taking the field he was again wounded at Sailors Creek and the war soon after closed and he returned home, one of Wisconsin's most honored soldiers. Captain Bremmer died in 1880. After a year with the Eighteenth Wisconsin James A. Bremmer re-enlisted and this time was assigned to Company G of the First Wisconsin Infantry. He was constantly on duty until May 30, 1864, when at the Battle of Dallas, Georgia, he lost his right arm, and in the same engagement eight of his teeth were shot away. Thus it was by no means a light sacrifice he made for the integrity of the Union.

After this wound he remained at home at Plover for about six months and then took up the active life which he has followed for nearly half a century, buying forty acres of land in Stockton Township, and subsequently buying out the interests of the other heirs in the old homestead, which gave him a fine farm of 133 acres. There he took up farming, and despite his physical handicaps did much of his own work. Along with business affairs he has more or less continuously been identified with some public office. As soon as he came home from the war he was elected township treasurer of Stockton Township and filled that office eight years. He was also constable and was second deputy sheriff for two terms, at first under David Clemons and later under W. J. Baker. He also served on the school board, and was the first postmaster of the Village of Arnott, an of-

five he filled seven years. In 1887 Mr. Bremmer resigned the post-mastership and came to Stevens Point, where he had his home ever since. In June, 1908, however, he went to Northwestern Nebraska, and in Cherry County took under the Kincaid law a homestead of 640 acres, which he has devoted to general ranching purposes, and which he still owns. On that land he has fed and pastured a large number of stock. Stock dealing and shipping has been a business with him for many years and he has shipped both east and west, according to the changing situation in the stock industry. Recently he has been shipping horses from the West to Stevens Point. Many years ago he acquired a small tract of land of eighty acres in Nebraska, which he used at one stage in his stock business. Mr. Bremmer was also the first buyer and shipper of potatoes at Stevens Point, in which he was engaged for twenty years.

For thirty years his home has been at 136 Plover Street in Stevens Point. Mr. Bremmer is a republican in politics, is affiliated with Plover Lodge No. 80, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, is present commander of Plover Post No. 149, Department of Wisconsin, Grand Army of the Republic, and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He has always been active in politics and as a worker for clean government and progress along general lines. His family attend the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Bremmer is still an enthusiastic follower of the chase and only recently returned from a successful hunting trip for deer.

In January, 1873, he married Miss Emma M. McMillan. She was born in Stockton Township of Portage County October 1, 1851, daughter of Peter and Miranda (Dimond) McMillan. Her father was born at Alburg, Vermont, September 20, 1824, and her mother was born in Canada, October 1, 1820. The McMillans have claims to pioneer settlements and activity in Portage County beginning only a year or two after the Bremmers arrived in this wilderness. In 1849 the McMillans journeying westward by the Great Lakes arrived in Wisconsin, and Peter McMillan walked from the lake shore to Oshkosh and thence into Portage County, joining the pioneer community of Plover, where for a time he was employed as a teamster. In June, 1850, he preempted 160 acres near the farm of the Bremmers and took possession when only three or four other settlers occupied that entire prairie. He built for his humble home a cabin 16 by 16 feet, and at once began breaking his land. He and his wife were married at Plover November 17, 1850, and their first child was Emma. Edith S., born May 18, 1855, was the second; William P. was born May 18, 1856; Sidney G. was born January 8, 1859; Annie J. was born October 4, 1860; and Carrie A., was born May 12, 1866. Peter McMillan died February 9, 1908, and his wife in 1902. He was a republican in politics, and was a man of prominence in Stockton Township, where he served on the school board and as side supervisor. He also made a record as a soldier, enlisting at Plover in November, 1861, in Company E of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Regiment. He was at the battle of Shiloh and then on account of physical disability was discharged at Corinth, Mississippi, in August, 1862. After that he returned to Portage County and toward the close of the war was drafted, but was exempted on account of ill health. For two years he served as assessor of Stockton Township. His wife was an active member of the Baptist Church. Peter McMillan had a very limited education, and perhaps

for that very reason was keenly interested in the welfare and progress of the schools in Portage County. He was a member of Plover Post No. 149, Grand Army of the Republic. And in this connection it should be mentioned that Mr. James A. Brenner has attended many national encampments of the Grand Army.

Mr. and Mrs. Brenner became the parents of four children: Clara Edith, born November 8, 1873, was educated in the public schools of Stockton Township, is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and of the State Normal School of Stevens Point and also of the local business college, and for some years was a teacher in the business school and is now teacher of commercial subjects at Hudson, Wisconsin. James, the second child, born March 2, 1876, died on May 7th of the same year. Charles A., born January 19, 1879, is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and Business College, and is now private secretary to the president of the Chicago Pneumatic Tool Company of Chicago, with offices in the Fisher Building. Charles A. married Laura Huntington, of Green Bay, Wisconsin, and they have two children, Edith Louise and Geraldine Jane. The fourth and youngest of the family is Elizabeth M., who was born December 13, 1880, is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School, the Normal School and Business College, and is now employed as teacher in the commercial department of one of the oldest and best township high schools in Illinois, at Princeton.

**FRITZ A. KREMS.** One of the substantial business houses of Stevens Point is the Krembs Hardware Company, of which Fritz A. Krembs is president and progressive manager.

Fritz A. Krembs was born at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, June 4, 1873. His father, Alexander Krembs, was an early settler here and was the founder of the business in which his sons are at present interested. Fritz A. attended the public schools here and then was given collegiate advantages and spent three years in the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana. When he returned to Stevens Point he entered his father's hardware store and learned the business thoroughly and finally succeeded his father in its management. He applied modern business methods and expanded and in 1911 incorporated under the title of the Krembs Hardware Company, the officials of which are as follows: Fritz A. Krembs, president; Emil A. Krembs, of Merrill, Wisconsin, vice president; Alexander Krembs, secretary; and Anton C. Krembs, treasurer. This is one of the leading firms in its line in this section of the state and the stock carried includes heavy and shelf hardware, manufactured by the most reliable concerns in the whole country. The business methods of this house have always commended it to careful buyers, and as a concern and individually the company enjoys a reputation for honesty and reliability.

Fritz A. Krembs was married in 1896 to Miss Katherine Jacobs, of Stevens Point, who is a daughter of N. Jacobs, a well known citizen and substantial farmer in Portage County. Mr. and Mrs. Krembs have six children, namely: Ferdinand, Gretchen, Irma, David, Leona and Robert. Mr. Krembs and his family belong to the Roman Catholic Church.

While ever an earnest and active citizen, Mr. Krembs maintains an independent attitude in politics, nevertheless he has been chosen for public office on numerous occasions. Under the new law he was the

first controller of the City of Stevens Point, and subsequently served two terms on the board of aldermen, representing the First Ward, was supervisor on the County Board, representing the First Ward, and his sound business ideas and his general efficiency make him valuable in civic matters.

Mr. Krembs is a member of a number of fraternal organizations, including the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters and belongs also to the Rotary Club. He is numbered justly with the representative men of Stevens Point.

ALONZO MYERS. This name brings up associations with much older and modern business history in Portage County, where the family has lived for seventy years. The late Jacob L. Myers was one of the most prominent factors in the days before railroads in operating some of the old stage lines that ran from settlement to settlement and town to town in Central Wisconsin. Mr. Alonzo Myers has long been active in business affairs at Stevens Point and among other interests is proprietor of the Myers House, one of the popular hotels of the county.

Alonzo Myers was born in Plover, Portage County, January 1, 1858. He is a son of Jacob L. and Mary (Thompson) Myers. His father was born in the Mohawk Valley of New York April 22, 1808, and was a single man when he came into the wilds of Wisconsin Territory. It was in 1847 that he came to Plover and began carrying mail between Berlin and Portage City and Stevens Point. In 1847 he established the first stage line of four horses and rapidly developed that business until he had a hundred and fifty horses doing duty at different stations. It was customary for the stages to change horses every ten miles, and for that reason it required a large equipment of horses to operate the business. This was the work and chief interest of Jacob Myers for a number of years. He finally located on a farm in Buena Vista Township, where he died August 1, 1884. He married at Belvidere, Wisconsin, Miss Mary Thompson, who died in 1860. Their children were Charles, Henry, Martha, Alonzo and Albert, twins. Jacob Myers had a previous wife, by whom he had four children. Edgar, Selwyn, Theodore and Oscar. His third wife was Eliza Palmer, of Paw Paw, Michigan. She was born October 27, 1827, and died when past ninety years of age, on December 13, 1917.

Alonzo Myers was reared in Portage County, had a public school education, and as a boy attended some of the old log cabin schools of the county. It was three miles from the home to the school and he walked back and forth practically every day. He was five years old when his parents moved to the farm in Buena Vista, and there he grew to manhood, acquired a practical knowledge of farming, and took up that vocation for himself. His father had always been interested in livestock, especially good horses of the racing breed. Alonzo inherited tastes and inclinations in the same direction, and for a number of years bred and handled race horses and supervised their performances on the track. His father at one time had two of the finest horses in Wisconsin.

In 1900 Mr. Alonzo Myers retired from the farm and has since lived at Stevens Point. For one year he was in general teaming and contract work and in 1901 he opened a hotel on Water Street, where

he was located five years, and since then has been proprietor of the Myers House at 322 Normal Avenue. Mr. Myers is also a licensed auctioneer, and his stock sales held every month at Stevens Point are the medium through which a large amount of livestock and other property change hands. These sales always attract a large number of buyers.

In politics Mr. Myers is a republican. He is now representing the First Ward in the City Council, and for the past fifteen years has served as deputy sheriff and special police. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal Neighbors, and for a little over twenty years has been identified with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

On July 15, 1880, he married Miss Frances Jones. She was born at Lawton, Michigan, June 4, 1859, daughter of Allen and Susan (Courtney) Jones, of Lawton, both now deceased. Her father died in 1889 at the age of sixty-five, and her mother in 1899, also aged sixty-five. Her father was a cooper by trade and saw more than three years of active service as a Union soldier during the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Myers have one daughter, Susie, wife of Henry Kelp. Mr. and Mrs. Kelp reside in the Myers home and they have a daughter, Mary Frances, born August 20, 1905. Mrs. Myers and her daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**JOSHUA J. NORMINGTON.** A man of good business capacity, intelligent and enterprising, Joshua J. Normington, of Stevens Point, occupies a position of note among the prosperous and respected citizens of Portage County, owning and operating a finely equipped and well patronized laundry. A son of James Normington, he was born on a farm in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, June 3, 1874.

Settling in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, in pioneer times, James Normington took up a tract of heavily timbered land, and by courageous and persevering labor cleared and improved a good farm, thus contributing his full share towards the development and growth of the community in which he located. His wife, whose maiden name was Charlotte Cook, died at Green Bay, Wisconsin, in 1915, and since that time he has lived retired from active pursuits, making his home in Marshfield, this state.

Spending his early life on the home farm, Joshua J. Normington acquired his education in the public schools. In 1900, in partnership with his brother, he embarked in the laundry business at Marshfield, Wisconsin, under the firm name of Normington Brothers, remaining there until 1913. In that year, Mr. Normington opened a laundry at Stevens Point, and in its management met with most satisfactory results, building up an extensive and lucrative patronage. His constantly increasing work demanding new quarters, he recently purchased the building formerly known as the Racine Knitting Mills, and having removed it to 116-122 Park Street is carrying on a substantial business, keeping twenty-three persons busily employed.

Mr. Normington married, in 1896, Mrs. Manie Johnson, of Milwaukee, and they are the parents of four children, namely: Robert Johnson, Edward James, Lottie Jane and Walter Joshua. Politically Mr. Normington is an earnest adherent of the republican party. Fraternally he is a member of Evergreen Lodge No. 95, Ancient Free and Accepted Order of Masons; of Stevens Point Chapter, Royal

Arch Masons; of Stevens Point Commandery, Knights Templar; of the Modern Woodmen of America; and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

DAVID MEHNE. Among the men of southern Portage County whose well-directed labors in their younger years have made it possible for them to retire while still able to enjoy in the fullest extent the comforts and pleasures of life, one who has been particularly successful is David Mehne, now a resident of the Village of Almond. For many years Mr. Mehne was numbered among the leading agriculturists of Almond Township, where he prosecuted his operations with industry and along the most highly approved lines, and now, in the fullness of hale and hearty middle-age, he is a useful citizen of his community, retired from active business affairs but active in matters that affect the welfare of the locality in which he makes his home.

Mr. Mehne was born on his father's farm in Almond Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, November 7, 1864, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Lutz) Mehne, natives of Baden, Germany. In his own land Jacob Mehne was a small farmer, industrious and ambitious, but successful only in a small way. As his family grew larger and his earnings remained about the same he saw only a life of drudgery ahead of him, and accordingly began to make preparations for a change of location in the hope that he might better his fortunes. In 1864, with his wife and eleven children, he left Germany for the United States, arriving here after a long and tedious journey, during which his youngest child died on shipboard. Shortly after the family's arrival in the United States another child died, and the rest of the little party pushed on to Almond Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, where David Mehne was born in the same year. Twelve weeks later, the mother, worn by the long journey and unaccustomed hardships, passed away. The father's early struggles in this new land, where he knew neither the language or the customs, were hard ones, but he was made of strong fiber, was courageous and industrious and determined to succeed, and finally overcame all obstacles and succeeded in the development of a paying farm of 340 acres, lying about two miles north of the Village of Almond. He continued to carry on operations on that piece of property until his retirement, from which time forward until his death, in 1891, he lived at the homes of his children. His contribution to the development of this part of the county included the erection of the first buildings on his land, and he was known as a good, honest and reliable citizen. His twelve children were as follows: Jacob, a veteran of the Civil war, who still survives and makes his home at Stevens Point, Wisconsin; Mary, deceased; Elizabeth; John, residing at Almond; Michael, also of this place; Barbara, deceased; Lena; George, deceased; Katherine, who died just after the family's arrival at New York City; Christina; David (1), who died on shipboard on the Atlantic Ocean; and David, of this notice.

David Mehne received a district school education and was reared to agricultural pursuits, his youth and young manhood being divided between the home farm and working out on those of neighboring agriculturists. When he was twenty-two years of age, at the time of his father's retirement, he took charge of the elder man's farm, which he continued to operate for about six years, and then, being ready to enter upon an independent career, bought a farm in section 17, Almond

Township, which continued to be his home until his retirement in 1912. Mr. Mehne made many improvements on his property, cultivated it with skill and energy, and became known throughout the neighborhood as a skilled and thoroughly informed agriculturist who was able to get from his land due recompense for the amount of labor he expended upon it. For the greater part he was a general farmer, but also had considerable success as a specialist in the growing of potatoes, and at all times was known as a straightforward and honorable man in business transactions. The farm consists of 120 acres, upon which there are a number of handsome and substantial structures of his own construction, and the property is still owned by Mr. Mehne.

In November, 1886, Mr. Mehne was married to Mrs. Mary Anna (Langbauer) Mehne, the widow of his brother, George Mehne. Mrs. Mehne had one child by her former marriage, Lydia Clara, who is now Mrs. Joseph Christman and has two children, Lilah Marie and Ruth Elizabeth Rosalie. Mr. and Mrs. Christman reside on and operate Mr. Mehne's farm. The members of this family all belong to the German Methodist Episcopal Church, and support it generously.

**ARTHUR H. SHELburne.** The people of Portage County know the Shelburne family not only because of their long residence here, but also for their varied and conspicuous activities as farmers, stock breeders, business men and public spirited citizens of that class which gives tone and character to any community.

A representative of the third generation of the family in Portage County is Arthur H. Shelburne, a young stock farmer in Buena Vista Township whose work has made him prominent among Holstein cattle raisers not only in this county but throughout the Middle West.

He was born on the old farm where he now lives in Buena Vista Township June 8, 1887, a son of Lindley S. and Ida M. (Stimers) Shelburne.

A special paragraph is due to his grandfather, David Shelburne, who was born near Shelbyville, Indiana, March 3, 1822. In early life he moved westward and was an early settler in the Territory of Iowa. At Warsaw, Iowa, in October, 1852, he married Miss Sarah Woodfolk, who was born in Virginia October 7, 1835. After their marriage they settled at Mosinee, Wisconsin, where David Shelburne worked on the river and in the woods. In the spring of 1853 he came to Portage County, and at that time acquired the hundred eighty acres of wilderness land which is now the perfect and admirably situated farm of his grandson Arthur. Much of this land he cleared during his lifetime, and improved it with good buildings. In 1804 he bought another farm of a hundred and eighty acres in Buena Vista Township, and this is now owned and occupied by his son Walter. David Shelburne and wife both died in Portage County. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Keene. The record of their children is as follows: Laura, who died when twelve years old; Clara, wife of Marvin Rice, a farmer in Plain Grove Township, and mother of Hosea, who has been a teacher in the State Normal at Stevens Point for several years; Carl, who died in infancy; Aiden; Frances is the wife of Charles H. Bacheler, and she had two children, Frank and an infant, deceased; Lindley; Everett, who now lives in the State of Washington; Cassie, wife of William Prescott, also living in the State of Washington; David, now deceased; Kate,



deceased wife of Grant Holloway, of Duluth, Minnesota; Walter H., a farmer in Buena Vista Township; Sadie, wife of A. O. Anderson, of Canada; and two other children that died in infancy.

Lindley S. Shelburne was born in Buena Vista Township on the farm where he had his place of activities and where his son now lives on September 5, 1856. He came to manhood with a public school education and such training as he acquired during his youth on the farm. Farming constituted the business of his active career and he acquired the old homestead of a hundred and eighty acres. Many well cultivated fields at the present time were cleared from the wilderness by his hand and under his supervision, and on the home farm he built a number of substantial buildings, including a barn 36 by 80 feet, a silo 14 by 30 feet, and conducted operations as a high class stock farmer and breeder. He gained no little reputation for his grade Holstein cattle, and he was busied with this varied program until his death on August 19, 1914, one of Portage County's most esteemed citizens. In politics he was a republican and attended the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In Buena Vista Township Lindley Shelburne married Ida M. Stimers, who is still living on the old homestead with her son. She was born at Waupun, Wisconsin, September 13, 1868, daughter of Charles and Kate (Howard) Stimers, both of whom were also natives of the Waupun vicinity in Dodge County, Wisconsin. The Stimers and Howard families were among the earliest settlers of that part of the state. Charles Stimers was born in upper Canada, grew up in Dodge County, and after his marriage moved out to Iowa, about 1873. He finally located at Merrill in Lincoln County, Wisconsin, and was one of the pioneers of that old headquarters of the lumber industry. A carpenter by trade, he built a number of houses there, and bought and sold property on an extensive scale. He has been a resident of Merrill for the past twenty-six years, and has identified himself with the land business and with various other affairs. Some years ago he erected a substantial two-story brick building, on the first floor of which he now conducts an up-to-date book and stationery store, handling all the current literature, including magazines and papers. He is one of the enterprising citizens of Merrill, and has served as supervisor for five years. In politics he is a republican and for some years was a state deputy of the Knights of the Maccabees. He also at one time filled the office of state oil inspector. His first wife, who died in 1880, was the mother of four children: Ida May, Mrs. Lindley Shelburne; Frank and Frances, twins; and Lillian. For his second wife Charles Stimers married Martha Charmley, and their children are Harry, Anna and Ethel.

Lindley Shelburne and wife had five children: Mabel, born February 7, 1886, is a graduate of the rural schools and of the State Normal College at Stevens Point, and is now a successful teacher in the grade schools at Junction City. The second in the family is Arthur H. Shelburne. Eva B., born January 19, 1889, married Daniel Young, of Pine Grove Township, and they have a daughter, Dorothy Mabel, born May 15, 1912. Charles David, born October 17, 1891, died June 16, 1908. Lindley, the youngest, was born May 18, 1898, and died July 19, 1900.

Arthur H. Shelburne has had experience in farming and stock raising almost from his earliest recollections. While as his strength permitted he assisted in the work of the farm, he was also given a

liberal education, attending the public schools and for one year was a student in the State Normal at Stevens Point and has taken several agricultural courses in the University of Wisconsin. He is now proprietor of 140 acres of the old homestead, and is making a specialty of the same class of stock formerly handled by his father, the Holstein cattle, of which he has some thoroughbreds and a number of high grades. He is also owner of a flock of thoroughbred brown Leghorn chickens.

Mr. Shelburne is a member of the Holstein-Friesian Association, member of the Holstein-Friesian Association of America, and is vice president of the association representing Buena Vista Township. In politics he is a republican.

AUGUST GEORGE GREEN was the type of citizen whose name deserves a long memory in Stevens Point. He was an intense business man, and during a comparatively brief career accumulated a modest fortune, though he began without a dollar.

He was born at Kalich, West Prussia, November 1, 1859. When he was about six months of age his parents came to America, spending a short time in Canada and afterward locating at Berlin, Wisconsin, where the father died. When he was about eight or nine years old his widowed mother brought him to Stevens Point, where she spent her last years.

August G. Green had to become self supporting at an early age. In Stevens Point he attended for a time the White School. All the old students of that famous institution have been very proud of their association there, and one of the most prominent social organizations of Portage County is known as the White School Association, which includes a large number of the best people in Stevens Point and elsewhere, and some of those old pupils have since achieved more than local prominence.

As a boy Mr. Green worked as a clerk in the grocery store of Wash Stone and lived in Mr. Stone's family for a number of years. In 1880 he began business for himself in a meat market on Main street. He was in that location a number of years, and it is where John Peickert now has his market. Mr. Green had the ability to handle a number of different enterprises, and his interests rapidly accumulated. He was a lumber and coal merchant, and for several years did light logging. It is said that he traveled as many or more miles with a team as any other man living at Stevens Point. On one occasion while traveling through the sparsely settled district of Wisconsin he was held up by some Indians. He had with him a faithful dog. At his word this dog sprang upon one of the Indians, while Mr. Green whipped up his team and escaped, leaving the dog to fight it out. The next day the animal returned home, badly bruised, and old Doctor Rood, one of the early day physicians, had to take some stitches in his body. Some people who afterward made a report after visiting the scene said it showed fragments of torn blankets and much blood, indicating that the dog had put up a valiant fight.

A number of years ago Mr. Green built a fine brick block on Main Street, one of the best in the city, and there he continued to conduct his meat business. About fifteen years ago he built a fine residence at 735 Main Street, where Mrs. Green still lives.

Mr. Green was always an ardent republican, but was never an aspirant for office and could not be prevailed upon by the urgency of

friends to take any public responsibility. He and his wife were active members of the Catholic Church, and he was a charter member of the Catholic Knights and the Catholic Foresters.

He continued active in business until his death on September 12, 1907. He is to be remembered as a man upright and strictly honest in all his dealings, his word being considered as good as a bond. He found his first dollar in the Public Square and that started him in business. It was largely due to the fact that Mr. Green worked so hard and exposed himself so frequently that his death occurred when he was still a comparatively young man.

On June 18, 1885, he married Theresa Peickert. Mrs. Green was born at Stevens Point June 2, 1865, daughter of Emanuel and Elizabeth (Weisen) Peickert. Both her parents were natives of Germany, and on coming to Stevens Point her father took up his trade as blacksmith. He also worked on the railroad at the time it was built to Stevens Point. There were eight children in the Peickert family. Emanuel, Theresa, Theodore, Anna, John, Frank, Mary Elizabeth and William, all living except William. Mr. Peickert, the father, was a democrat in politics and he and his family were active Catholics.

WILLIAM F. WEBIE represents one of the families longest identified with the agricultural enterprise of Portage County. The Webies have been here more than sixty years, and his own life began and developed and its best fruits have been represented by his efforts in this locality.

Mr. Webie was born at Stevens Point November 8, 1858. His father, William Webie, was born in Germany in 1822, and died September 24, 1879. The mother, Ernestine Webie, is still living at the age of eighty-one. They were married in Germany and came to this country and located at Stevens Point in 1857. Their first child, a daughter, was born in Germany and died while the family was coming to this country. William Webie, Sr., was a carpenter by trade and followed that occupation in Stevens Point and later established a saw-mill at Owl City. Five years later he returned to Hull Township and bought the farm on which he lived until his death. He and his wife had the following children: William F.; Edward on the old homestead; Mary, who died February 16, 1893, at the age of twenty-five; GUSTIE, wife of John Waroush; and Emma, wife of John Greek.

William F. Webie was reared in Portage County, attended the local schools and early in life began farming. He has developed a fine estate in Hull Township, 264 acres, and practically every acre has been cleared by him. It represents many permanent improvements, and its value and productiveness stand as testimony to his life of efficiency. Besides his work as a farmer Mr. Webie served as assessor five years, was school board clerk eight or ten years, and for two years was supervisor of his township. He affiliates with the republican party and is a member of the Lutheran Church.

April 22, 1883, he married Miss Elizabeth Rositzke. For his second wife he married December 25, 1893, Mary Schwartz, daughter of Jacob and Eva Schwartz, of Plover Township. Mr. Webie has nine children named William, Mamie, Clarence, Lizzie, August, Emma, George, Jack and Earl.

JOSEPH CIECHOLINSKI. Any survey of the industrial situation as Stevens Point would take note of the business conducted by Joseph



*Mr & Mrs C F Seaman*

Ciecholinski which has developed from a modest beginning as a blacksmith shop into a varied establishment where nearly all kinds of iron work is fabricated and repaired, while one branch of the business is a repair and garage service for automobiles. Mr. Ciecholinski has been a figure in Stevens Point affairs for a number of years, and has made a splendid success though he began life at the very bottom round of the ladder.

He was born in German Poland November 22, 1875, and has lived in Wisconsin since he was five years old. His parents are John and Marcia Ciecholinski, both natives of German Poland. They brought their family to Milwaukee in 1880 and about nine months later came to Stevens Point, where they reside at 307 North Avenue. Both are now well advanced in years, the father at the age of eighty-one and the mother aged seventy-nine. John Ciecholinski gave his active years to the blacksmith trade but is now living retired. He and his wife are active members of St. Peter's Church. They had a family of eight children: Francis, Laura, Joseph, Clara, now deceased, Dora, Helen, John and Verona.

During the brief time the family lived at Milwaukee Joseph Ciecholinski had his first schooling and after that was educated in the parochial schools at Stevens Point. He learned blacksmithing under his father and for nine years was employed by Mr. Hoefler, one of the leading blacksmiths of Stevens Point. In 1895 Mr. Ciecholinski went into business for himself, with a shop for general blacksmithing and repairing. In 1912 he added a line of agricultural implements and began the manufacture of wagons. His plant is still making wagon bodies. In 1918 he established a garage, and also has the equipment and facilities for cast iron welding and vulcanizing. Mr. Ciecholinski's business has been steadily growing. He built his first plant in 1904, and in 1907 erected another shop and now has three buildings in use, the larger one being 38 by 42 feet and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories high. One other is 24 by 30 feet and another is 24 by 38 feet.

Mr. Ciecholinski and family are members of St. Peter's Catholic Church. He owns two dwelling houses at Stevens Point, one at 305 Portage Street and the other at 300 Portage Street. In January, 1897, he married Miss Rose Koslowski. Mrs. Ciecholinski was born in Poland in 1879, daughter of Michael and Catherine Koslowski, who a year after her birth came to America and after a brief sojourn in Chicago came to Stevens Point. The family soon settled on a farm in Eau Pleine Township, but her father is now living retired at Junction City in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Ciecholinski became the parents of fifteen children, seven of whom died in infancy. Those to grow up were: Emma, who was educated in the parochial schools and the Stevens Point Business College and is now bookkeeper for her father; Leonard, who was educated in the parochial schools and the State Normal, is a painter by trade and assists his father in the business; Lillian and Mamie, both students in the high school; Lawrence and Bessie, in the parochial schools; and Pearl and Anselm.

OSCAR F. SEAMANS. For fully sixty years a resident of Portage County, Oscar F. Seamans is known to the people of this section as a man who did his brave duty as a soldier in the Civil war and since then as a carpenter and builder, surveyor and owner, and one who in all the relations of a long and busy life has lived up to the best

standards of citizenship. Mr. Seamans is now living retired and makes his home with his daughter Mrs. Fred Athrop, just over the line from Linwood Township in Wood County, Wisconsin.

Mr. Seamans was born at Auburn in Geauga County, Ohio, May 12, 1839, a son of Joseph and Catherine (Sweet) Seamans, both of whom are natives of New York, in which state they were married and were pioneer settlers in Geauga County, Ohio, in 1835. In practically all the wars in which this nation has been engaged some members of the Seamans family have been participants. Mr. Seamans' paternal grandfather was a soldier in the War of 1812, and the great-grandfathers on both sides were soldiers. The father of Oscar Seamans was a soldier in the Mexican war while Oscar and two of his brothers were soldiers of the Union. A son of Mr. Seamans, Raymond, was in both the Spanish-American and Philippine wars, and for five years was in Government service engaged in work on fortifications. A grandson of Oscar F. Seamans was in the draft for the present World war.

It was in 1856, when Oscar F. Seamans was seventeen years old, that his parents came to Portage County, Wisconsin, then an almost unbroken wilderness, and acquired forty acres of land in Stockton Township opposite the present home of James McCue. Here they built a humble home, but later sold and in 1861 Oscar Seamans bought the East or Mill Creek Ferry farm on which his parents spent the rest of their days. His mother died there February 8, 1863, at the age of sixty-two years and four months, while the father passed away September 4, 1882, aged eighty-one years. Joseph Seamans was also a carpenter and builder. He was a republican voter and in Ohio had affiliated with the Free Will Baptist Church, but in Wisconsin was a member of the United Brethren denomination. The mother joined the Christian Church when fourteen years of age. They were the parents of four children: Orange, born April 25, 1823, and died March 25, 1909; Orville, born January 16, 1827, now deceased; Ruth Ann, born June 26, 1830, died April 23, 1918; and Oscar F.

Oscar F. Seamans was educated in the public schools of Ohio, attending one of the high class preparatory schools of that state, Hiram Institute. After coming to Portage County he worked with his father at the carpenter's trade. He also acquired a practical knowledge of surveying, and did much work with Gen. A. G. Ellis, who was deputy surveyor general of the United States. Mr. Seamans ran a large number of early survey lines in Portage County.

In February, 1863, he responded to the call of patriotism and enlisted in the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and did his duty as a loyal Union man until the close of the war. After the war until recent years he was engaged as a carpenter and millwright and has done construction work all over this section of Wisconsin. As already noted he has acquired considerable land in Linwood Township, but most of the clearing and development was left to the family. He also owns land in Plover Township. Mr. Seamans is a republican voter and at one time served as clerk of Linwood Township and for many years was a member of the school board. His wife was actively identified with the Church of Christ.

November 4, 1866, he married Miss Jane A. Morgan, who was born in Waukesha, Wisconsin, July 6, 1845. She died January 7, 1916, only a few months before the date on which they would have

celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Seamans became the parents of nine children. The oldest, Catherine E., born at Plover October 19, 1867, is the wife of Mr. Fred Athrop, of Wood County. They have the following children: Jesse Arthur, deceased; Hattie, wife of Charles Gaelke and the mother of two children, Lee, deceased, and Roger; Ruth and Emma, twins; Dorothy, John, Hope, Beulah, Ray, Glenn and Everett. The second child, Frederick Oscar, born March 11, 1869, married Jennie Bovard and has three children, Lois, Jane and Kenneth. George, born December 21, 1870, married Flossie Case, and also has three children, Florence, Georgie and Hazel. Raymond W., born December 28, 1874, married Ethel Dunham, who is now deceased. The fifth child, Robert, died in infancy. Merton David, born December 30, 1878, married Emma Staringer and has two children, Theodore and Virginia. Joseph Henry, born June 8, 1881, died December 25, 1887. Abbie, born April 22, 1883, married James Stafford, and of their eight children only three are living, Hattie, Ruth and William Henry. The youngest of the family, Enoch Clinton, was born December 21, 1885, and he and his wife, Lula, have one child, Raymond Oscar.

JOHN HEBAL came to Portage County when an infant more than half a century ago, was formerly a successful teacher but finally became started on a business career through a clerkship at Wausau and now for a number of years has been one of the substantial business men of Stevens Point.

Mr. Hebal was born in Austria August 7, 1863, son of Wensel and Theresa Hebal. In June of 1864, the little family started for America and arriving in Portage County settled on a farm in section 2 of Amherst Township. The place where they settled could hardly be called a farm, being a tract of new undeveloped land, but it became a farm under the labor and industry of the Hebal family, who lived there for about twenty-three years. Wensel Hebal then sold his Portage County property, went out to South Dakota, but after an experience of a few months returned to Wisconsin and settled at Wausau. He lived there 4½ years, until his death in December, 1895, at the age of seventy-two. His wife had died on the old homestead near Amherst in 1889. Wensel Hebal was a democrat and a member of the Catholic Church. There were five children: Joseph, of Goodwin, South Dakota; Rosa, who died at Wausau in 1894; Pergrin, of Goodwin, South Dakota; John; and Mathias, who died in 1889.

John Hebal grew up on the old farm near Amherst. When old enough to make his strength count he was set to various tasks about the home and farm and acquired a rather practical knowledge of farming, though he has never utilized it in his mature career. He attended the country schools and also a business college at Wausau and for two years was a teacher in Marathon County. His brothers Joseph and Mathias were also teachers. After leaving the schoolroom Mr. Hebal accepted an opportunity to become clerk in the store of Mrs. Trowbridge at Wausau, where he remained 2½ years. In 1896 he came to Stevens Point and went to work for Mr. Henry Hoefler, one of the old time and highly regarded merchants of that city. He remained in his employ as a clerk for twelve years, and then was promoted to a partnership under the name Hoefler & Hebal. This business was continued under that firm name until the death of Mr. Hoefler in 1913. Mr.

Hebal then bought Mrs. Cutting's business at 328 McCulloch Street, and has since conducted it as a general merchandise emporium with stock and service suited to all the demands made upon it by the city and country trade. The store is located in a building 80 by 20 feet.

Mr. Hebal is independent in politics and has never sought any of the honors of office. The only thing approaching a public office which he ever held was from 1881 to 1886, when he was assistant to his father, who served as postmaster of New Hope postoffice for 4 $\frac{3}{4}$  years.

In 1895 Mr. Hebal married Miss Johanna Ingwersen. She was born in Waupaca County, but was reared and educated in Portage County. She is a daughter of Emil and Johanna (Blaske) Ingwersen. Her father passed away September 8, 1918. Five sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hebal: Emil, a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and now a student in the State Normal; Lawrence, in the sophomore class in the high school; William, Frank and Frederick, who are in the grammar school.

**ORLIN AND DR. GALEN ROOD.** The Rood family, through the parents and the grandparents of the generation now living in Stevens Point, has intertwined its history with the patriotism and the industrial and professional development of Northern Wisconsin. Dr. Galen Rood was especially identified with the intellectual and religious growth of Stevens Point, as will gradually and forcibly appear in the course of this sketch.

The name frequently appears in the old New England records, which have been so carefully preserved, especially in the archives of Connecticut and Vermont; the "Vital Statistics" of Norwich are particularly rich in this lore. From them it appears that the Roods were numerous in the ranks of the Revolutionary patriots and those of 1812. The latter conflict drew upon the services of the grandfather and father of Dr. Galen Rood, Thomas D. and Orlin Rood, respectively, Thomas D. Rood and his son Orlin, then a mere lad, served in an ambulance corps and drove the teams that carried the wounded back to safety from the shores of Lake Champlain.

In later years, when Orlin Rood had reached manhood, the father of the doctor, then residing in Vermont, engaged in farming and shipping produce north into Canada and to the Massachusetts coast. In 1838 he came west as a contractor on the Illinois & Michigan Canal. The State of Illinois failed and all the contractors engaged in the development of its great system of internal improvements were compelled to accept state script worth twelve cents on the dollar. After Orlin Rood had paid his employes and all his other debtors he had nothing left. He therefore sold his homie and 160 acres, which tract today covers some of the most valuable residence property on the south side of Chicago, for \$2.50 per acre, and moved his family to Madison, Wisconsin. That was in 1840. While he was farming in that locality Mr. Rood became interested in the shipping of supplies to the Pineries. Later he built the Rood Lumber Mills at the mouth of Pine River, fifteen miles above Wausau. Naturally his business called for much teaming, and young Galen, then only ten years of age, became well known for his unusual ability in this line.



The wife of Orlin Rood (nee Abigail Gear) died in 1831, before the husband and father came West. After building the mills at the mouth of Pine River in the early '40s Mr. Rood himself moved to Ohio, and thence, years afterward, to Missouri, where he died in March, 1880, in his eightieth year.

Galen Rood early evinced a persistency in whatever he undertook, which held him to his studies in the midst of any labor. He was first trained in the district schools at Madison, then pursued his studies for several years at the University of Wisconsin and finally entered the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati. In the midst of his medical course occurred the severe cholera epidemic of 1855. In the following year he graduated from the Ohio Medical College, and his course was supplemented by an interne's practice in the Marine Hospital at Cincinnati.

Immediately after his graduation Doctor Rood chose Stevens Point, the heart of the Wisconsin Pineries, which his father had done so much to introduce to the East, as his home, and in April, 1856, opened his office as one of the first physicians of the place. On Thanksgiving day of 1857 the young physician, then twenty-seven years of age, married Nancy J. Sylvester, daughter of William and Nancy (Allen) Sylvester. Her father was a soldier of the War of 1812, who moved with his family to Fort Howard in 1835 and afterward became a leading citizen of Fort Winnebago. He was the first mayor of Portage City. Mrs. Sylvester died at Grand Marsh, Wisconsin, in 1848, and Mr. Sylvester, at Ripon, that state, in 1875. Both are buried in the military cemetery at Portage, where the Daughters of 1812 have recently placed a tablet over his grave. Mrs. Galen Rood died at Stevens Point on October 19, 1906.

Doctor Rood did as much as any one man to found Stevens Point on a firm sanitary basis. Preceding the granting of the city charter in 1858 he held the office of physician for the town, and in 1859 he was appointed city physician. With the exception of two years he held that office for twenty-nine consecutive years. Doctor Rood not only faithfully protected the sanitary interests of the city, but by becoming a self-appointed employment bureau (without salary, commission or any monetary compensation) threw work in the way of many who would otherwise be idle and perhaps a public expense. He offered himself for service in the Civil war, but was rejected on account of ill health. Although very frail, he took upon himself the responsibility of sending a substitute to the front, who, after faithful service, returned safely. He also assumed the professional care, gratis, of all families in his clientele whose heads had enlisted during their service for the Union. Doctor Rood was a devoted republican from the organization of the party in the years of his coming to Stevens Point until his death sixty-one years later. The doctor was born in Jericho, Chittenden County, Vermont, on January 14, 1830, and died April 4, 1917. He stood high not only in the community in which he had so long resided, but with his professional brethren, who for five years elected him president of the Portage County Medical Association. His office was never closed during those sixty-one years of varied and faithful service in Stevens Point. To quote from Rev. R. J. McLandress, of the First Presbyterian Church, of which the deceased was for many years a devoted trustee and supporter: "The history of

Doctor Rood's life, through sixty years of practice and service as health officer, is intimately interwoven with the unwritten history of this city. Such a life is not a Private Practice, but a Public Institution. His life exemplified the best traditions of the healing profession and of his doctrine of brotherly love; and so the passing of Doctor Rood is not in defeat but in victory."

Dr. and Mrs. Galen Rood became the parents of four children: Myron G. Rood, M. D., a practicing physician of Stevens Point for thirty years; Robert D. Rood, D. D. S., who married Ethel Kirwan, of Stevens Point, and practised his profession in the home town for sixteen years, is now a resident of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and the father of three children; Price W. Rood, D. D. S., who married Helena Heyd, of Milwaukee, and who lives in the Cream City practicing his profession, the father of two children; and Miss Katharene A. Rood, widely known as a musical educator and one whose interests are alert in matters pertaining to the Public Library, the Woman's Club and religiously the Presbyterian Church of which her parents and grandparents were devoted and prominent members.

As to other relatives of Doctor Rood it may be said that Capt. Anson Rood, of the Thirty-Eighth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry in the Civil war, was a brother. Among his cousins were: United States Senator J. H. Geer, of Iowa, and Ogden N. Rood, professor of physics at Columbia University for thirty-eight years; Heman Rood, D. D., Hanover, New Hampshire, prominent as an educator of Greek and Biblical literature, was an uncle; also, Anson Rood, D. D., of Philadelphia, whose granddaughter, Dr. Carolina Hazard, was former president of Wellesley College.

**THOMAS E. CAULEY.** Portage County has always been known as "the good roads" county of this part of Wisconsin, and the responsibility of maintaining that reputation and keeping it fresh and green has largely devolved upon Thomas E. Cauley in recent years as county highway commissioner. Mr. Cauley is an expert on good roads, both making and maintenance, and has perhaps as wide an experience as any other citizen of the state in the administration of local and county highways.

Mr. Cauley was born in Stevens Point November 30, 1857, and belongs to a prominent old family of the county. He is a son of Michael and Ann (Nevens) Cauley. His father and mother were both natives of County Mayo, Ireland. They came to America about the same time, 1840, but before their marriage. They were married at Portage, Wisconsin, and from there drove as their honeymoon trip to Plover. Michael Cauley bought a tract of government land in Plover Township of Portage County, lived there eight years, for a time had his home in Stevens Point, and then moved to Linwood Township of this county, where he cultivated a farm until his death. His wife died at Stevens Point. They were the parents of ten children, named William, Thomas, Mary, Margaret, Jane, Kate, Michael, John, Nell and Alice, all of whom are living except John, who died in infancy. The family were reared as loyal Catholics and Michael Cauley was one of the men who organized the Catholic Church at Stevens Point.

Thomas E. Cauley during his boyhood received his education in large part from the "Old White School." In later years he was an active member of the social organization known as the Old White

Schoolhouse Association. After completing his schooling he worked as a lumberman for fifteen years and since then has given his attention almost entirely to public road work. For seventeen years he was in the employ of Stevens Point as highway commissioner and city engineer. In 1911 he took up his present duties as county highway commissioner, and has held that office ever since except one year when he was with the Wisconsin State Highway Commission.

April 22, 1887, Mr. Cauley married Miss Jessie Thompson, a native of Neenah, Wisconsin, daughter of George Thompson. Three children were born to their marriage: Grace, Bernice and Marie. Marie is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Cauley and their family worship in the Episcopal Church. He is a democrat in politics and has always been a leader in his party in Portage County.

JOHN J. KOLINSKI is one of the practical business men of Stevens Point, but his activities during the larger share of the years since he attained his majority have been spent in farming. Mr. Kolinski still owns some of the good land of Portage County, but for the past four years has been in the retail meat business at Stevens Point.

He was born at Ellis in Portage County January 20, 1882, a son of Frank and Catherine (Glinecki) Kolinski. His parents were both natives of German Poland. His father came to Portage County in 1861, and his first employment was in the days when all this region was devoted to the lumber industry. He followed the river as a raftsman and also worked in sawmills. Later he bought and occupied a farm near Polonia, and for twenty-five years had his home in Stevens Point, where he owned the Star saloon. His home in the county seat was at 718 Fourth Avenue. His last days were spent on the farm, where he died January 17, 1904, at the age of seventy. His chief business was farming and at it he was very successful. At one time he acted as head sawyer in the mills of William Campbell. He was a democrat in politics and worshiped in the Catholic Church at Polonia and also in St. Peter's Church at Stevens Point. He was twice married. His first wife was Mary Konapacki. Of their children only one is now living, Frances, wife of John Kiedrowski, of North Dakota. Catherine Glinecki, second wife of Frank Kolinski, is still living. They were married at Polonia and of their large family the following grew up: Antone, now deceased; Dora; Felix, who lives with his mother; Mary, who lives in Los Angeles, California; Joseph, who died at the age of eighteen; and John J.

John J. Kolinski spent his early life on the farm near Polonia. He was educated both in the parochial and public schools at Stevens Point. When he was eight years old his parents moved to the county seat, and here he grew up and married and after his marriage he rented a farm for three years and then bought a place of a hundred sixty acres in Buena Vista Township. That was his home and the scene of his activities for seven years. On selling out he returned to Stevens Point in 1913 and bought the property at 307 North Second Street, which he has well improved and utilized for the purposes of conducting a meat business. In 1915 Mr. Kolinski bought an eighty acre farm in Rosholt Township, three and a half miles from the town, and he gives it some of his careful supervision. Mr. Kolinski and family reside at 309 North Second Street. He is independent in politics and is a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church.

February 18, 1903, he married Miss Rosa Kulwikoski, of Rosholt Township. Her father, Frank Kulwikoski, had a farm in that township, lived there for twenty-five years and was one of the first settlers and died in July, 1912. Her mother is Anastacia (Jaseske) Kulwikoski, and she is still living at Stevens Point. Mr. and Mrs. Kolinski have five children, all living, named Alvin, Frances, Louise, Clarence and Morris.

**CHARLES H. CASHIN.** Though one of the younger members of the Portage County bar Charles H. Cashin has signalized his work by influential relationships in his practice and a degree of skill and ability that augurs well for rising and continuing success in many years to come.

Mr. Cashin is a native of Stevens Point, and was educated here in the St. Stephen's parochial school. He graduated from high school in 1899. He graduated from the law department of the University of Wisconsin with the degree of LL. B. in 1902, and since then for fifteen years has been a member of the Stevens Point bar. He practiced with different firms and is now member of the firm Fisher & Cashin. For one term he held the office of city attorney. Mr. Cashin is active in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Columbus.

His father is Patrick H. Cashin, one of the oldest and best known citizens of Stevens Point. He was born in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, April 4, 1851, son of Patrick and Catherine (Kelly) Cashin. Both parents were natives of Kilkenny, Ireland. When Patrick Cashin, Sr., arrived at Milwaukee that settlement contained only three houses. In a short time he took a claim of a hundred twenty acres in Granville Township in Milwaukee County and he lived there from log cabin days until the surroundings were transformed into a rich and populous district where both he and his wife died. They had six children: Margaret, who died young; Mary, Elizabeth, James, Michael and Patrick H.

Patrick H. Cashin acquired his early education in the district schools of Milwaukee County. As a boy he served an apprenticeship to learn the carpenter's trade. He worked in Milwaukee until about 1878, when he moved to Kansas City, Missouri, and was in that city three years. Returning to Wisconsin, he located at Stevens Point and with the exception of two years as a general merchant at Johnson's Creek in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, his home has been continuously at the county seat of Portage County for over thirty-five years. For about fourteen years Mr. Cashin was in business at Stevens Point, but is now living retired.

His name has long been prominent in local politics. The first political office he ever held was on the school board of Granville Township in his native county. For twenty-four years he has been a member of the city government of Stevens Point, six years as mayor and the rest of the time as a city councilman. For two terms he was in the State Legislature, and the county never had an abler representative at Madison than Patrick H. Cashin.

In 1878 he married Miss Mary E. Hayden, a native of Milwaukee and a daughter of John and Bridget Hayden. Her father was a boot and shoe manufacturer at Milwaukee, and later retired to a farm in the Town of Granville in Milwaukee County. Patrick H. Cashin and wife had four children: Charles H.; George W., a traveling salesman; James A., in the grocery business at Stevens Point; and William Roy

who is a dental surgeon by profession and gave up his practice at Stevens Point to serve as captain in the Dental Corps of the United States Army.

The Cashins are active members of the Catholic Church and Patrick H. is affiliated with the Catholic Foresters. One point in his career that should not be overlooked in a work that is essentially a historical publication is Mr. Cashin's efforts to place a suitable memorial to one of the old time citizens of Wisconsin and of Portage County. Some years ago Patrick H. Cashin discovered that the burial place of Isaac Ferris, a pioneer pilot on the Wisconsin River, was about to be forgotten because of no permanent marker. This old river man was buried in Plover Township, just south of the city limits of Stevens Point and across the river from the main part of the town. Mr. Cashin circulated a subscription list, and through his diligent efforts secured enough money to erect an appropriate monument over the grave of a man who in his time was regarded as a leader and a distinctive figure all up and down the Wisconsin River.

ALGIE E. BOURN. Courteous, accommodating and painstaking, Algie E. Bourn, of Stevens Point, is one of the best clerks Portage County ever had, and its clerks have always been capable and efficient, the affairs of his office being administered wisely and conscientiously. He was born December 24, 1862, in St. Joseph County, Michigan, a son of the late Henry H. Bourn.

A worker in metals during his active life, Henry H. Bourn came from Michigan to Plover, Portage County, in 1876, and with his sons established a foundry, with which he was connected until his death, the business being carried on under the name of A. H. Bourn & Company, his eldest son having been at the head of the firm. To him and his wife, whose maiden name was Angeline Woodward, five sons were born, one of whom died in infancy, and four are living, as follows: A. H., now a resident of Elkhart, Indiana; Algie E.; E. E., of Cumberland, Wisconsin; and L. E., of Plover. The father was for several terms chairman of Plover Township.

Acquiring his early education in Michigan, Algie E. Bourn was graduated from the Mendon High School, after which he took a course of study at the Kalamazoo Business College. He began work as a wage earner in his father's foundry in Michigan, and continued with the firm for awhile after coming to Plover, this state. Changing his occupation, Mr. Bourn opened a hardware store at Plover and built up a substantial business, managing it alone the greater part of the time, having had but one or two partners.

While living in Plover Mr. Bourn served as township chairman and as county chairman, having been active in public life, and later was elected to the position of sheriff and moved to Stevens Point, which has since been his home. In May, 1904, he was appointed county clerk to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Charles A. Lane, and has filled the office by election and successive re-election ever since, his retention in the position bearing evidence of his ability and fidelity as a public official.

On April 26, 1883, Mr. Bourn was united in marriage with Alice Marlatt, who was born in Portage County, of pioneer ancestry. Her father, Elias Marlatt, an early settler of Portage County, enlisted as a soldier in the Civil war and was killed while in the service. Five chil-

dren have been born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bourn, namely: Forest H., third assistant superintendent of the Northern Express Company, with headquarters at St. Paul; Grant E., a prominent farmer of Cumberland, Wisconsin; Florence, a graduate of the State Normal School, is teaching in the public schools of Bancroft, Portage County; Leslie E., now serving as a corporal in Battery E., One Hundred and Twentieth Light Field Artillery, Fifty-Seventh Brigade; and Raymond, a pupil in the high school. Fraternally Mr. Bourn belongs to the Ancient Free and Accepted Order of Masons, to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, to the Modern Woodmen of America, and to the Knights of the Maccabees.

SILAS R. SCHENCK. The thriving and prosperous Village of Bancroft includes in its citizenship a number of men who, having passed the active portion of their lives in industrious agricultural labors, are now living in retirement, having transferred the responsibilities of soil development on to the younger element. Many of these men have participated in the development of this part of Wisconsin from nearly primitive conditions to a state of rare fertility, and in this class is found Silas R. Schenck, whose entire career has been passed in Wisconsin, and who is now a member of the retired colony of Bancroft.

Mr. Schenck was born February 16, 1854, in Steuben County, New York, a son of William and Emmeline (Rowley) Schenck. His parents, natives of New York, were married in that state, where they owned a farm, but disposed of their land there and moved to Portage County during the early '50s, settling on a new property about five miles from the Village of Bancroft. Here they passed the remainder of their lives, devoting their energies to the tilling of the soil until their declining years, when they gave their land to their youngest son, and it has now passed out of the family possession. Both parents are now deceased. They had a family of seven children: Susan, who is deceased; Mrs. Angeline Spade, a resident of Stevens Point, Wisconsin; Lydia, who is now Mrs. Hutchinson, of Bancroft; Silas R.; William, a resident of the State of Washington; Mrs. Nancy Kellogg, of Bancroft; and Lawrence, who lives in Washington State.

The boyhood of Silas R. Schenck was passed amid rural surroundings and his time as a lad was divided between working on his father's farm and attending the district school. He grew to manhood as a farmer and when he left the home place it was to engage in agricultural work on his own account, his labors resulting in the accumulation of a good farm situated in sections 21 and 22, Bancroft Township. He was industrious in his work, operated his property intelligently and according to the most highly approved modern methods, and developed a valuable farm, erecting substantial buildings and in other ways adding to the value and attractiveness of his home place. When he had reached a position of independence he sold his land and removed to the Village of Bancroft, where he is now the owner of a comfortable home and eight building lots. He still has various business interests, among them being stock in the cheese factory at Bancroft, which has just been completed. Mr. Schenck, like all good and public-spirited citizens, has participated to some extent in civic affairs, and has been chosen by his fellow-citizens as the incumbent of several public offices, having served satisfactorily as supervisor of his township and as a member of the village board and the school board. He has always

been content to make his home in Wisconsin, and has left the state only on one occasion, when he made a trip to Chicago and on to the State of Washington.

Mr. Schenck was married in 1879 to Miss Emma Ellis, who was born in Wisconsin, and to this union there have been born six children: Arthur, of Washington; Mrs. Edith Bender, of Bancroft; Mrs. Cora Sparks, of this place; Mrs. Dora Bender, also of Bancroft; Ray, who is married and a resident of Stevens Point; and Warren, married and a resident of Bancroft.

ALBERT WILLIAM MANLEY is a business man and citizen around whom revolve many of the most substantial achievements in the Bancroft community of Portage County. Mr. Manley began his career in the woods a number of years ago, with practically only the resources of his hands as his credit and capital. He developed a good farm, gradually reached out to acquire other interests, became a merchant at Bancroft, and now has a splendidly prosperous general merchandise establishment there and is also president of the only bank of the village.

Mr. Manley was born in Wood County, Wisconsin, May 20, 1861, son of Samuel Monroe and Irena Marie (Markham) Manley. His father was a native of New York State and his mother of Illinois. Samuel M. Manley came to Wisconsin and settled in the vicinity of Keene in Portage County as early as 1854. He was well known and honored among the early settlers of the county. His wife came to the same neighborhood still earlier, in 1849. Her parents, James and Adelia (Boyne) Markham, were pioneers and long identified with the agricultural element of Portage County, first in the vicinity of Keene and later at Meecham Station.

Albert William Manley as a boy attended a district school east of Bancroft. His parents were by no means wealthy, and at an early age he exerted his physical strength either at home or in outside employment sufficient to support himself and gain that modest capital with which he started an independent career. He worked on the farm, in the lumber woods, and at other employment. Finally he bought a tract of wild land  $1\frac{3}{4}$  miles southeast of Bancroft, and went diligently and vigorously to work clearing and improving and was there as a practical farmer until about 1909. In the meantime he had become associated with his brother Martin in a general store at Bancroft, and in 1915 he embarked in business under his individual name, establishing his stock of merchandise in a fine store building 40 by 64 feet. In 1912, when the Bancroft State Bank was organized, he became its president, and has directed the affairs of that institution most creditably ever since. Mr. Manley has filled some of the positions of trust and responsibility in Pine Grove Township, and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

In 1888 he married Miss Anna Elizabeth Wilson, who was born near the City of Milwaukee, daughter of Samuel Wilson. Five children have been born to their marriage: Lottie, Ella, Lucy, Harry and Ralph, but two are deceased, the oldest and youngest, Lottie and Ralph.

GEORGE W. PRATT. Much of the business prosperity and prominence of Bancroft is due to its location in the great potato producing district of Wisconsin, and it is one of the main potato markets in Port-

age County. A factor in the prosperity of the village is George W. Pratt, who for many years has been a potato buyer and has a personal acquaintance probably with as many potato producers in Central Wisconsin as any other man.

Mr. Pratt is a native of Portage County, born in Pine Grove Township May 26, 1865, son of Nelson and Anna (Abbott) Pratt. His parents were both pioneer farmers in Pine Grove Township, where his father bought land in the wilderness and undertook to clear it up and develop a farm. His father was a native of New York State and his mother of Pennsylvania. His mother is still living, residing with her bachelor brother George. She was the mother of seven children, all of whom are still living, named in order of birth: Mary, Charles H., Byron, Fred E., Albert J., George Warren and Cora.

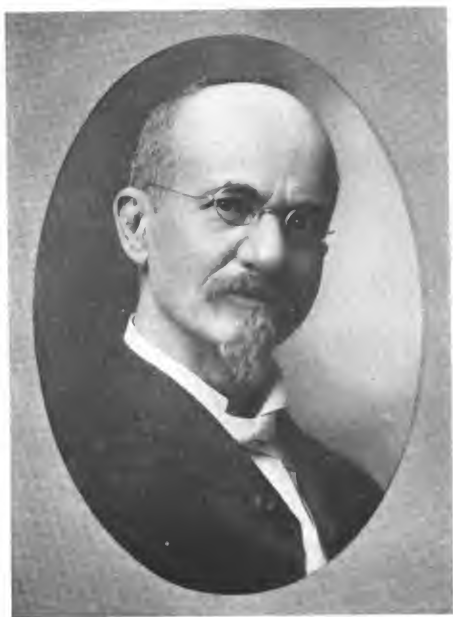
When George W. Pratt was four years of age, in 1869, he was adopted by Mr. James Sample, a prominent old time resident of portage County, and from that age he was reared on the James Sample farm half way between Bancroft and Plainfield. He grew up there, attended the district schools at Spirit Land, and after starting for himself became interested in the potato business and for a number of years has been one of the principal buyers for the potato market at Bancroft, with William Carley.

In 1897 Mr. Pratt married Miss Henrietta Herbert, a native of Springwater Township, Waushara County, Wisconsin, and daughter of Samuel Butler Herbert. Her father was a soldier of the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Pratt have four children: Erma G., a graduate of the Plainfield High School and a student of the State Normal at Stevens Point; Lula M., member of the senior class of the Stevens Point High School; Edith L., of the Plainfield High School; and Warren C. The family are members of the Baptist Church. Mr. Pratt about ten years ago served as deputy sheriff of Portage County.

**GUSTAV WESLEY ANDRAE.** For many years the name of Andrae has been prominently identified with the mercantile interests of Stevens Point. Well directed energy, business enterprise and local pride contributed to the successful upbuilding of one of the largest mercantile houses in this city, conducted under the style of G. F. Andrae Company, of which Gustav Wesley Andrae is sole proprietor.

Gustav Wesley Andrae was born in Stockton Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, March 14, 1890. His parents were Charles Wesley and Sophia Anderson. On July 5, 1890, occurred the death of the mother, Mrs. Sophia Anderson, and on September 22, 1890, Gustav Wesley Anderson was adopted by the late Gustav F. and Ada F. Andrae. The father G. F. Andrae was born in Germany, December 11, 1849, and when sixteen years of age came to the United States, and here, in time, became a man of large business affairs and an honored and valued citizen. Landing in New York City in 1865, he spent little time in the great metropolis, his intention being to establish himself in Wisconsin, to which state many of his countrymen had emigrated. He made his way to Mayville, Wisconsin, where he worked for a few years for his brother Julius Andrae who was in the dry goods business, but finding no permanent position there, walked the entire distance to Stevens Point and here entered the employ of Henry Hoeffler as a clerk in his store. It was not long before Mr. Hoeffler recognized the business qualities of his young assistant and offered him a partnership and soon the firm of





*G. F. Auden*



MRS. G. F. ANDRAE AND SON GUSTAV W. ANDRAE

Hoeffler & Andrae became a strong factor in the town's business life. The partnership continued from 1870 until 1874, when Mr. Andrae became sole owner. For thirty-six years Mr. Andrae was the leading merchant at Stevens Point and was also one of the material upbuilders, for he acquired much realty here, in business sections, all of which he improved. In consulting newspaper files during the period above mentioned it will be found that he was constantly being named in connection with the construction of substantial buildings or the expansion of his own business enterprise, and was ever credited with being a leading and representative citizen. His death occurred October 15, 1910.

Gustav Wesley Andrae attended the public schools of Stevens Point, had one year in high school, and spent one year in Ripon College. Upon the death of his father, G. F. Andrae he took charge of the latter's business interests, and although not brought up in the dry goods business, has adjusted himself and is proving to be an able and judicious business man. In 1885 the business was carried on in a new brick block erected by his father in that year and was continued there until 1892, when it was moved into the present commodious one on Main Street. This location is excellent and the store is well lighted from both front and rear and is equipped with all the conveniences usually found in modern stores of this kind. Mr. Andrae's father set a high standard both as to completeness and quality of stock handled and to honorable business methods employed, and the same policy is continued by the present owner, who numbers among his patrons customers who dealt for a quarter of a century with his father. Mr. Andrae took entire charge as proprietor on June 6, 1911, renaming the firm G. F. Andrae Company.

At this point should be stated some further particulars regarding the wife of the late Gustav F. Andrae. On April 14, 1875, he married Ada Frances Anderson, who was born at Oak Grove, Dodge County, Wisconsin, November 19, 1854, a daughter of Thomas Wesley and Lucy Bortle Anderson. Her father was born near Peterboro in Madison County, New York, March 30, 1828, and her mother in the same county September 18, 1832.

Thomas W. Anderson was a son of Holbrook Anderson, who was born in Madison County, New York, in 1806, a son of Thomas and Susanna Anderson, an old New England family. The Andersons were among the first pioneers to develop Madison County, New York. Thomas and Susanna had the following children: Joseph, Loyal, James, William M., Holbrook, Nancy, Polly, Abigail and Lucy. All of them spent their lives in Madison County, New York, except Holbrook and Nancy. The latter married a Mr. Harkness and died in New York City. Holbrook Anderson married Arvilla Avery, a native of Madison County. The name of Holbrook Anderson is connected with some of the pioneer things in Portage County. He and his wife came to this county in 1857 and he established a sawmill on Plover River, but did not operate it, selling the machinery to Belsmar & Goodhue. Holbrook Anderson died in this county March 18, 1892, and his wife on March 3, 1879. They were members of the Methodist Church and he was a whig and republican.

Thomas Wesley Anderson and wife were married in Madison County, and in May, 1852, arrived in Dodge County, Wisconsin, and in 1857 removed to Portage County, locating on Plover River, about two miles east of Stevens Point. Later they had a farm of 320

acres in Stockton Township and for about twenty years Thomas W. Anderson lived retired at Stevens Point. He also spent about twelve winters at Biloxi, Mississippi, where he died December 18, 1916. He and his wife had two children: Charles W. Anderson, of Stevens Point, and Ada Frances Anderson who married the late G. F. Andrae.

Gustav Wesley Andrae married at Stevens Point in 1912 Miss Genevieve Glinski, who was born in this city, a daughter of Joseph Glinski who came to the county in early manhood and is a well known citizen of Stevens Point. Mr. and Mrs. Andrae have three children: Ada Genevieve, Gustav Ferdinand and Anita Frances. Their hospitable home is a fine residence situated at 541 Clark Street, Stevens Point. Mr. Andrae has always given his political support to the republican party.

**DAVID E. HETZEL.** At present a retired citizen of Almond, David E. Hetzel has been one of the industrious men of Portage County, linking his name with all that is admirable in farming and wise and progressive in individual life. His career has been passed amid agricultural surroundings, where his industry and good management brought him material success, while his sterling qualities of character, as evidenced in his straightforward business transactions and his loyalty to friendships and fidelity to engagements, won him equal prosperity in his fellow citizens' confidence and esteem.

Mr. Hetzel was born in Germany, June 30, 1851, and is a son of John and Barbara (Gaybert) Hetzel. In his native land John Hetzel followed the trade of a weaver, and while he worked hard and economized could not seem to make satisfactory progress. His ambition and desire for a home of his own led him to face unknown conditions in the United States, and during the late '50s he came to this country with his family and settled in Portage County, in the locality known as Hetzelville. Here he acquired a small property which he developed and cultivated and after years of hard work had accumulated 160 acres, which he gave to his son. John Hetzel met a tragic death when still active and with apparently many more years to live. Always an energetic man, when there was work to be done, he was always eager to take part, and it was in this way that he died, being crushed while engaged in cleaning a well on the home farm. He was the father of the following children: Barbara, who is now Mrs. Kifner, of Almond; John and Mike, who are deceased; David E.; and Mary, who resides in Clark County, Wisconsin.

After completing his educational training in the district schools of Almond Township, David E. Hetzel turned his attention seriously to the business of farming and applied himself assiduously to assimilating the teachings of his father in methods of farming. When ready to enter upon his own career as an agriculturist he took up unbroken land in section 16, where he eventually cleared 120 acres, and following this added to his property by clearing forty acres in section 21. This property comprised the farm on which he worked out his success, and for many years he was numbered among the most successful tillers of the soil of this region. He also accumulated eighty acres of land in the vicinity of Buena Vista, which he still owns, but this is practically all in timber, only four acres having been broken at the time of this writing. When Mr. Hetzel retired from active labor he turned the management of his farm over to William Tess, who is now carrying on

successful operations there. The property is graced by good buildings erected by Mr. Hetzel and also boasts of other valuable improvements installed by him. On coming to Almond he purchased a home and lot, and since that time has invested in other village property, in addition to which he has an interest in the produce and warehouse company at Almond. As a public-spirited member of his community, Mr. Hetzel always aligns himself with constructive forces, and while he has not been desirous of a place in the limelight as a public official has been ready to discharge his duties of citizenship and has served capably and conscientiously as road commissioner and treasurer of the school board.

In 1876 Mr. Hetzel was married to Miss Lena Mehne, who was born in the same part of Germany in which his birthplace was located. To this union there were born the following children: William, who is engaged in farming in Portage County; Martha, who is the wife of William Tess and resides on her father's farm in Almond Township; Ed, a resident of Almond; Emma, now Mrs. Tess; John, a farmer of Almond Township; Albert, of Almond; Laura, who resides on a farm; Fred, who is proprietor of a store at Almond; Oscar, a resident of Duluth, Minnesota; Henry, a farmer of this county; Walter, of Duluth; and Ezra, the youngest, and the only child now at home.

**WILLIAM E. ULE.** While Mr. Ule has spent most of his life as a resident and citizen of Stevens Point, his business relations have taken him over many of the states of the Union. He is one of the most extensive contractors in the country in the building of power plants and factories for paper mills. For a quarter of a century he has directed most of his energies to the construction of water dams and other work connected with paper manufacture, and has used his organization and expert services for handling some of the biggest contracts of this kind in the west and south. He has made a great success of his business, and is one of the well to do and highly esteemed residents of Stevens Point.

Mr. Ule was born in Illinois April 7, 1865, a son of Peter and Evangeline (Hopt) Ule. His parents were both natives of Germany, his father coming to the United States at the age of nineteen and his mother at seventeen. They married at Belleville, Illinois, where their son William was born. In 1865 the family went to Missouri, where the father followed his business as a contractor. In the early part of 1876 they came to Portage County, where the parents spent many years, but the father died at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, in 1912, at the age of eighty-eight, and the mother passed away in 1897, aged sixty-seven. Peter Ule was also a well known contractor and at one time had business associations with Mr. Vetter at Stevens Point. He was a republican, and at one time served as a member of the City Council. He was reared in the Catholic faith, but finally left the church. He was affiliated with Evergreen Lodge No. 93 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and also with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

William E. Ule was educated in the parochial and public schools of Stevens Point and was not yet twenty years of age when he began the business of general contracting. He came to manhood at Stevens Point and this city he has always regarded as his home and place of residence, though his work has required absence for extended periods in other cities and states. He has developed a large organization and one of

his most recent contracts was the construction of the dam for the Jackson Milling Company.

In politics he is a republican voter and is a member of St. Stephens Catholic Church. He is affiliated with the Rotary Club of Stevens Point and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

February 28, 1891, Mr. Ule married Miss Emma E. Longavan, of Stevens Point. She was born in this city, daughter of Peter and Mary Longavan, early settlers here. Mr. and Mrs. Ule are the parents of five children: Carl W. has already distinguished himself as the soldier representative of the family. He is a graduate of Stevens Point High School and was formerly engaged in the manufacture of soft drinks at Stevens Point under the name of Plover Springs Bottling Company. Harold E., the second son, is also a soldier. He is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and Normal and was also connected with the Plover Springs Bottling Company until September 23, 1917, when he enlisted for service in the Aviation Corps. He is located at Gerstner Field, Lake Charles, Louisiana. The three younger children are Mamie, Madeline and William E., Jr. Mamie is a graduate of high school and is a student in the State Normal, while Madeline is in the grade schools.

**ARTHUR J. CLEMENT.** The real pioneer element of Portage County has some of its best personal representatives in Arthur J. Clement and his venerable father, William P. Clement. The latter has been a resident of this portion of Wisconsin for more than sixty years. He knew Portage County when it was an unbroken forest, and when Indians, bear and deer were as familiar as automobiles are today. Arthur J. Clement has spent his life in the county and is now one of Stevens Point's leading business men, conducting a garage and repair shop.

William P. Clement was born at Thackford, Vermont, October 16, 1834. He is one of the last survivors of that group of early settlers who came into Portage County more than sixty years ago. When a young man he moved to New York State and in 1856 married for his first wife Sarah Warner. In the same year they came to Portage County and established their first home in Eau Pleine Township. Acquiring a tract of land that had never known the uses or practices of civilized men, he developed a good farm there and kept up its cultivation and management until April 1, 1892. He sold it at that date and moved to Wausau, Wisconsin, and on September 19, 1892, returned to Stevens Point and this city has been his home now for over a quarter of a century. For all his eighty-four years he is still remarkably strong and active and has a memory that includes personalities and events making almost a complete authentic record of the early days in this section of Wisconsin. His first wife died in Portage County in 1863, leaving three sons, William H., Frank and Alonzo. He married for his second wife Caroline (Otis) Beedle, widow of Jacob I. Beedle, who was killed as a Union soldier in the Civil war. Mr. Beedle left two children, Edward and Jennie. Mrs. Caroline Clement was born in 1835 and died June 11, 1873.

Arthur J. Clement, only child of his father and mother's second marriage, was born in Eau Pleine Township of Portage County, May 8, 1870. He was reared on the farm where he was born and he too has some interesting memories of this part of Wisconsin when it was by no means so far advanced as it is today. When he was a boy the denser

portions of the uncleared woods still contained a few deer and bear, and some of his first efforts as a hunter were in pursuit of this large game. His education was limited to the advantages afforded by the schools of the locality, and on leaving home he went to work for the Wisconsin Central Railway. He began railroading when a mere boy, was brakeman and fireman, and for three years worked in the shops of the Wisconsin Central. This experience in the shops gave him the foundation of his more permanent career. He opened a shop of his own at Stevens Point for the general repair of implements and other machinery, and in 1905 he established one of the very first garages in the city. His place of business and also his home are at 216 North Second Street. Mr. Clement is independent in politics.

February 1, 1895, he married Mary J. Seeber, who died in 1905, leaving one daughter, Mabel Caroline, who is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and of the State Normal School. In 1907 Mr. Clement married Pearl A. McKillets, widow of James McKillets. By her first marriage she has one daughter, Myrtle, who is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and now a student in the State Normal.

Mr. Clement's maternal grandparents deserve some special mention as having been pioneers in Wisconsin, coming here when Wisconsin was still a territory. They were Andrew and Exey (Storrs) Otis, of old New England stock. Andrew Otis was born in Connecticut in 1800 and his wife in New York State in 1805. They came west to Dane County, Wisconsin, in 1844, four years before Wisconsin was admitted to the Union. Later they removed to Burnett County, Wisconsin, where Andrew Otis, who was always a farmer, died in 1883. His widow died in 1888 at Stevens Point, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Arthur Benjamin Redfield. Andrew Otis was regularly a democrat, but broke the continuity of his party allegiance when he voted for Lincoln. He and his wife were members of the Baptist Church and for many years he was a deacon. They had five children: Phoebe, Caroline (mother of Mr. A. J. Clement), Henry, Amanda and Dirwin.

CLARENCE W. WHITTAKER'S chief work in Portage County has been as an unusually competent and capable farmer. It is one of the larger and better managed places in Buena Vista and Plover townships, where he has put into practice the accumulated wisdom and experience of many years as an agriculturist and stockman.

Mr. Whittaker was born in Plover Township of this county October 18, 1867, son of Alphonzo and Bell (Altenburg) Whittaker. His mother was a native of New York State and a daughter of that well known Portage County pioneer John Altenburg, to whom several references are made on other pages. Alphonzo Whittaker after his marriage settled in Buena Vista Township on forty acres of the land now owned and occupied by his son, having acquired this land from John Altenburg. The parents spent the rest of their days there. The father was a republican, served as a member of the school board, and both were active in the Methodist Episcopal Church. They had only two children, a son, Clarence W., and a daughter, Iva May, now wife of Anthony Prain.

Clarence W. Whittaker grew up on the farm where he now lives and all his associations and interests have been identified in that one locality from boyhood to the present time. A public school education

gave him his book training for life. He has done much to extend the property and interests acquired by his father. To the old homestead he added ten acres, giving him a farm of fifty acres in Buena Vista Township, while in Plover Township he owns 120 acres, all devoted to farming and stock raising. Mr. Whittaker has one of the conspicuous barns of the township, erected in 1907. It is a structure 36 feet wide by 96 feet long, while the posts are 18 feet from the sill to eaves. He has also made a practical demonstration of the benefits of a silo, and has one of the well constructed silos to be found in the county.

Mr. Whittaker was for three years a member of the school board of his district, being associated with Fred and Will Taylor on the board when the new schoolhouse was erected. In politics he is a republican.

January 15, 1896, Mr. Whittaker married Miss Rubie Radcliffe. Mrs. Whittaker was born at Bancroft in Pine Grove Township of this county March 30, 1869. Her father, Benjamin Radcliffe, was an early settler here and died in 1868, before the birth of his daughter. The mother, Mary Radcliffe, survived to advanced years and passed away in 1912. Mrs. Whittaker had a brother, Benjamin, who died in Iowa April 12, 1918, and her other brothers and sisters were: Amos of South Dakota; Olive, wife of Thorsten Johnson, of Eugene, Oregon; John, who was serving as sheriff of Vilas County, Wisconsin, when killed on duty; Fannie, who died in 1915, wife of Rural Rice, of Glasgow, Montana; Charles, who died at Bancroft in Portage County; Rowena, wife of William Rayan, of Bancroft; Thomas, of Chandler, Minnesota.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Whittaker were born five children. Ralph, who occupies the farm of his father, married Evelyn Hale, daughter of E. J. Hale, of Plover Township, and they have one child, Gladys Marian, born March 9, 1917; Homer, who lived at Glasgow, Montana, and was a fireman on the Great Northern Railroad until he enlisted in the aviation service with the Fifty-fourth Squadron and was in training on the aviation field at Waco, Texas, until he died in the service of the United States on the 29th of October, 1918; Roscoe, who died in infancy; Mary, member of the junior class of the Stevens Point High School; and Grace, in the eighth grade of the Lincoln School at Stevens Point.

ERNEST A. ARENBERG is one of the older business men of Stevens Point and his family have been identified with Portage County for a long period of years.

Mr. Arenberg was born at Watertown in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, December 8, 1865, son of Charles and Catherine (Dittes) Arenberg. Both parents were natives of Germany. When a young man Charles Arenberg came to Milwaukee, and they married in that city. Charles was a cooper by trade. He followed the cooper business at Watertown for a number of years, and afterwards moved to Stevens Point, where he lived until his death at the age of seventy-six. Both he and his wife are buried at Stevens Point. They were members of the Presbyterian Church. Their children were three in number: Charles, who died in infancy at Milwaukee; Otilie, wife of C. H. Schenk, mentioned elsewhere in this publication; and Ernest A.

Ernest A. Arenberg received his public school and high school education at Watertown, and by a thorough apprenticeship learned the jewelry trade in the same city. From there he came to Portage and



worked five years as a journeyman and in 1889 removed to Stevens Point and established the modest stock of jewelry which has grown and has brought him prosperity and high standing among the merchants of the city. He is located at 447 Main Street and has a very prosperous business.

Mr. Arenberg is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He married Miss Rose Walker, of Stevens Point. They have no children.

REV. WILLIAM J. RICE continuously since 1893, a period of a quarter of a century, has been pastor of St. Stephen Catholic Church at Stevens Point, a church comprising in its membership many of the oldest and wealthiest families of the county.

Father Rice was born on a farm in Brown County, Wisconsin, January 18, 1856, a son of John and Maria (Meara) Rice. His parents were both natives of Ireland and were pioneers in Brown County, where they settled in 1855. They have always been farmers and the father after a long and industrious life died there in 1895, at the age of seventy-six. His widow is still living, at the age of eighty.

William J. Rice was reared on a farm, had the advantages of the public schools and took his classical and theological course in St. Francis Seminary at Milwaukee. He was ordained a priest June 27, 1880, and held several parishes in the diocese of Green Bay until he came to the pastorate which he has served so efficiently since 1893.

WALTER H. SHELBURN, of Buena Vista Township, a prosperous and successful farmer there, is a native of Portage County and represents a family of early settlers.

He was born in Buena Vista Township July 2, 1873, son of David and Sarah (Woodfolk) Shelburn. His father was born near Shelbyville, Indiana, March 3, 1822. His mother was born in Virginia, October 7, 1835. They married at Warsaw, Iowa, in October, 1852, and soon after their marriage came to Wisconsin, locating at Mosinee. David Shelburn for a time was a riverman and woods worker. In the spring of 1853 he brought his family to Buena Vista Township of Portage County and the following year bought 180 acres of wild land on which his grandson, Arthur Shelburn, now lives. In the course of years he made this a good farm improved with substantial buildings. In 1894 he bought the farm of 180 acres in another part of Buena Vista Township now owned and occupied by his son Walter. At this second farm both parents passed away. David Shelburn was a republican and at one time served as supervisor of Buena Vista Township and for four years was chairman of the board. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their children consisted of the following: Laura, who died at the age of twelve years; Clara I., wife of Marion Rice and mother of Hosea, a teacher in the Normal School at Stevens Point; Carl, who died in infancy; Aiden; Frances is the wife of Charles H. Bacheler and had two children, Frank and one that died in infancy; Lindley is mentioned elsewhere in this publication; Everet was a farmer in the Dakotas for some years and is now in the State of Washington; Cassie is the wife of William Prescott, of Washington; David is deceased; Katie is the deceased wife of Grant Holloway, of Duluth; Walter H.; Sadie is the wife of A. E. Anderson, of Canada; and two other children died in infancy.

Walter H. Shelburn grew up on his father's old farm and was educated in the public schools. After the death of his mother he acquired the farm where he now lives, comprising 180 acres, and has done much by his improvements and cultivation to justify his ownership of such a good farm. A few years ago he erected a silo 14 by 31 feet, has also built a potato house, hay barn, garage and machine shed 22 by 55 feet, and has remodeled the residence. Besides his active career as a farmer Mr. Shelburn spent about three years working in the lumber woods. In politics he is a republican.

September 10, 1902, he married Miss Freda Mattie Wenzel. Mrs. Shelburn was born in Germany July 1, 1883, daughter of Julius and Bertha Wenzel, who came from their native land in 1885 and are now living on a farm near Amherst in Portage County. In the Wenzel family were eleven children: Elizabeth, Freda Mattie, Emma, Clara, Frank, Julius, a soldier in the great war, Bertha, Albert, Louise, Walter, and William who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Shelburn are the parents of six children: Frances, born June 28, 1904; Walter David, born November 3, 1906; Lyle, born July 2, 1908, and died October 25, 1908; Charles Frederick, born June 28, 1910; Richard Duane, born January 18, 1912; and Wenzel Albert, born June 4, 1916, and died September 24, 1917.

**JULIUS MUELLER.** It is typical of human nature to rely upon old and sure methods and practices rather than embark upon new and uncertain undertakings. Thus the rules that govern farming in one generation are quite likely to be followed by the next. But in every community some man of exceptional enterprise is adopting new devices and modifying old practices, and if his example demonstrates results it is sure to be followed, and that is the story of progress in every community and in every art and undertaking.

It has been due to the enterprise and energy of one of the younger farm owners of Sharon Township to set the pace in several important particulars. Mr. Julius Mueller some years ago put up about the first silo in his neighborhood, and the satisfaction and profit he derived from feeding silage made the silo rather popular among his neighbors. He also introduced the first high grade Poland China hogs to his neighborhood and was the first to bring there a pure blooded Guernsey bull. Thus he has accomplished something more than merely handling efficiently the routine of his own farm, since his example has set a good practice and standard for the entire community.

Mr. Mueller was born in Canada July 28, 1887, a son of Henry and Tilda (Bukholtz) Mueller. His parents were both natives of Germany. They immigrated to America and settled in Canada about 1883, and in 1902 moved to Athens, Marathon County, Wisconsin. They are now living at Wausau, where Henry Mueller is a mason contractor. In politics he is an independent. He and his wife have nine children, all living, named Julius, Adolph, Christian, John, Lydia, Mary, Edward, Harry and Roy.

Julius Mueller began his education in the common schools of Canada and later attended high school at Athens, Wisconsin. His first business experience was clerking in a store and doing farm labor. After his marriage he removed to Tomahawk, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, and for four years was in the retail meat business there. In 1911 he returned to Portage County and located in Sharon Township and in

1913 bought his present farm of 160 acres, this being the old Mathias Eiden Farm. It is during the last five years that he has made his enterprise count as a farmer and stockman, and his prosperity in these lines is well assured. In politics Mr. Mueller, like his father, is an independent voter.

November 9, 1910, he married Miss Helen Eiden, a daughter of Mathias and Mary Eiden, who were among the first settlers in Sharon Township. Mathias Eiden cleared most of the land constituting the present farm of Mr. and Mrs. Mueller. Mathias Eiden was a son of Nicholas and Mary (Weber) Eiden. A more detailed account of the Eiden family is given on other pages. Mathias Eiden was one of the pioneer hop growers of Portage County. The old hop house which he built on the farm in 1874 is still standing. He erected a number of other good buildings, which are still in use. Mathias Eiden died in 1913 and his wife in November, 1911. He was a highly successful farmer, and bought each of his two sons 120 acres of land in Stockton Township. Mr. and Mrs. Eiden had five children: Peter, Nick, Mary, Barbara and Helen. The Eiden family were members of the Catholic Church and that is also the faith of Mr. and Mrs. Mueller.

Mr. and Mrs. Mueller have four children: Dorothy, Loretta, Margaret and Theresa.

JOHN M. WANSERSKI. Some of the finest farms in the county are found in Sharon Township, and in the same locality are some of the best citizens of Portage County. Among those who have adopted modern methods and are in every sense progressive factors in the agricultural community is John M. Wanserski, who has lived here most of his life and has given a splendid account of his opportunities.

Mr. Wanserski was born in Poland March 1, 1859, son of Joseph and Frances Wanserski. When he was twelve years old, in 1871, his parents came to America and lived at Milwaukee for two years, from there coming to Portage County in 1873. They located in Sharon Township in section 12, where the father bought a very small farm comprising only ten acres. He had begun its improvements and was looking forward to a better home when in 1874 he lost his life by a stroke of lightning. His death occurred at the age of sixty-two. The widowed mother lived with her son John until her death in 1892, at the age of seventy-six. They were the parents of eight children, John M. being the youngest. Michael and Joseph both died in Poland. Paulina is still living in Poland and three of her sons are in the great war. Antonia lives at Milwaukee, Josephine in Stevens Point, Francis died in Poland, also Agnes.

John M. Wanserski was only fifteen years old when his father died. He helped his mother run the little farm and later he bought forty acres in section 12 in addition to the original farm. He continued an active agriculturist in that community until he sold the old place, and on April 1, 1908, moved to his present farm in section 35. Here he has 165 acres, devoted to general farming, and with good improvements. Mr. Wanserski is a democrat, and has been very popular among his fellow citizens. For seventeen years he was a side supervisor. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church at Polonia.

February 17, 1884, Mr. Wanserski married Miss Polly Ecekendarf. She is a daughter of Frank and Josephine Ecekendarf, who came from Poland to America in 1863 and Mrs. Wanserski was born to them

while they were still on the ocean. The family settled at Berlin, Wisconsin, but in 1873 came to Stevens Point and soon afterwards located on section 12 of Sharon Township. Her father died here in 1881, at the age of sixty years, while her mother passed away in 1899, aged sixty-five. They had a very large family of children: Frank; Augusta, of Wyandot, Michigan; Mary, who died in Poland; John; Peter; Julius; Paulina, Mrs. Wanserski; Henry, of Plover; Emma, of Wyandot, Michigan; Frances; Joseph, of Ashland, Wisconsin; and Josephine.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wanserski were born ten children: Mary is the wife of Frank Wanserski and their children are Ernest, Rudolph and Stanley. Martin lives at Galloway, Wisconsin, and by his marriage to Elizabeth Wanta has four children, Raymond, Irene, Florence and Clarence. Joseph, the third child, died at the age of fourteen. Annie is the wife of Adolph Zobrowski, and their family consists of Ferdinand, Agnes, Harry and Stanley. John J. lives at Rosholt, Wisconsin, married Elizabeth Kruzicki and has two children, Gertrude and Irvin. Victor is still at home. Regina is the wife of Nick Kruzicki and has a daughter, Evelyn. Ellen, the eighth child, is at home, while Edward died at the age of eight years and Frank in infancy.

GILBERT L. PARK, JR., a brother of Judge Park and son of Gilbert L. Park, Sr., both mentioned on other pages of this work, has been a successful lawyer and prominent citizen of Stevens Point for many years.

He was born at the county seat March 21, 1862, educated in the grammar and high schools and finished his education in the University of Wisconsin. He took up the study of law and was admitted to the bar in the fall of 1884, and since that time his chief energies have been devoted to his private practice. For twenty-one years he has served as a justice of the peace, and at the present time is also supervisor of the First Ward. He was elected to that office in 1902 and has been kept in office by the choice of the people regularly since then. For the last two years he has been chairman of the board.

Mr. Park is a democrat in politics, is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is unmarried and owns the old Park homestead at Stevens Point.

ONOFRY KRUZICKI. One farm in one ownership for over fifty years is a proof of the steadfastness and permanence of citizenship such as constitutes an asset to any community. Mr. Onofry Kruzicki, one of the leading farm owners and stock men of Sharon Township, was born on the place where he now lives November 26, 1866. His parents were Onofry and Fredericka Kruzicki, who came from Poland and journeyed into Portage County through the woods with wagons drawn by ox teams about 1850. They came here from Winona, Wisconsin, accompanied by Peter Klonopcky. The first land acquired by the parents was forty acres near Ellis, but this was subsequently sold and they took a homestead of 160 acres, which has been in the possession of the family now since the early '60s. The father died here in 1886, at the age of fifty-two, and the mother survived until July, 1915, when she was seventy-eight years of age. Onofry Kruzicki,



*Henry G. Grashorn*

Sr., was a very hard working pioneer and before his death had accumulated about 280 acres. The family first lived in a simple log house, and gradually possessed themselves of those comforts and conveniences in accordance with the rising standard of living. They were active members of the Catholic Church at Polonia. The family consisted of six children: John, Onofry and Frank, twins, Joseph, Barney, deceased, and Antonia.

Mr. Onofry Kruzicki grew up on the home farm and his education was a few brief terms in the parochial schools. In early life he had practical experience on the farm, and later he acquired the old homestead and has developed its improvements and increased its size until his ownership now includes 440 acres of the rich soil of Sharon Township. He has done much improvement, and has one of the finest barns in the county, 120 by 36 feet in dimensions. He uses most of his land to grow the staple crops of Wisconsin, and he also has a fine lot of grade Holstein cattle, his herd of twenty being headed by a thoroughbred sire.

Mr. Kruzicki is a democrat and an active member of the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia. He served as director of his school board for about twelve years, and in his church has been clerk six years and three years treasurer.

In 1888 he married Miss Rosa Wanta. She was born in New York State and was a child when her parents came to Portage County. Mrs. Kruzicki was wife and mother for a quarter of a century. She died December 8, 1913, the mother of the following children: Genevieve, the oldest, married Felix Richter, of Sharon Township, and is the mother of Bernice, Emil and Edwin. Nick, who lives at Rosholt, married Regina Wanserski, and has a daughter, Evelyn. Elizabeth is the wife of John Wanserski and has two children, Gertrude and Irvin. Otilla is the wife of John Trepkoski. Julia lives in Chicago and is the wife of Bruno Glinecki, and they have two daughters, Agnes and Florine. Laura is at home. Angeline is with her sister in Chicago. The younger children, all at home, are named Martha, Mae, Basil, Isabel, Leo and Annie. In 1914 Mr. Kruzicki married Mrs. Martha Richter, and they have one child, Theresa.

HENRY G. GRASHORN. Among the residents of Portage County who are now members of the retired colony, few have engaged in such a number of varied enterprises as has Henry G. Grashorn. His activities have led him to invade various fields of commercial endeavor, he has been an agriculturist, and has looked after large properties of his own and of others, having been the repository of important interests, has been the founder of enterprises of a financial character, and, until his retirement in 1915, was the incumbent of responsible posts in the public service. His career has been a remarkable one in many ways and has been characterized all the way through by self help, as the success which is his has been gained solely through his own initiative and resource.

Mr. Grashorn was born at Sheboygan, Wisconsin, September 13, 1859, a son of Lewis and Pauline (Brooksen) Grashorn. His father, born in Oldenberg, Germany, in 1818, came to the United States in 1849 and located in Wisconsin, but after a short stay returned to Germany and was married, his wife, who had been born on the English Channel in 1830, being at that time a resident of Germany. They

came back to America in the same year and located at Oak Creek, now a suburb of Milwaukee, but after about two years removed to Sheboygan, near which city Lewis Grashorn owned a farm. He continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits during the remainder of his life, and died in 1871, when in his fifty-fourth year. Mrs. Grashorn survived him many years, and passed away in 1905 on the old homestead that is still owned by the family. There were the following children: Lewis; Elizabeth, who died in infancy; Charles, who died August 28, 1914, on his fifty-eighth birthday; Henry G., of this notice; and William, George and Lena, who live on the home place at Sheboygan.

Henry G. Grashorn was reared on the home farm near Sheboygan, where he remained until sixteen years of age, in the meantime securing his education in the public and German parochial schools. At that time he secured employment working on a railroad section, at a wage of 90 cents per day, and followed this line of work for 2½ years, gradually advancing in position and salary. His next work carried him into the pineries of Michigan, where he worked at hauling logs until spring, following which he became employed on Government contracts in the line of superstructure of piers and breakwaters on the Great Lakes. After five years of such work Mr. Grashorn entered the service of the Hatfield Company, dealers in wood, coal, etc., and November 14, 1884, arrived at Junction City, where, in the capacity of manager for seven years, he looked after the lands and mining interests of the concern and had charge of the shipping of wood and coal. At the end of that period Mr. Grashorn embarked in the wood business on his own account, bought land in Carson Township, in the vicinity of Junction City, and carried on an extensive business in this direction for some years. He became the owner of two farms, one of forty acres and another of 120 acres, the latter known as Maple Grove Farm, upon which he had a splendid herd of pure-bred Holstein cattle. This he sold at the time of his retirement in 1915. In addition for several years he was proprietor of a livery, dealt extensively in insurance, and was interested in an agricultural implement concern. For twelve years he was also the owner of a general store at Junction City, and like all his other enterprises this prospered through his capable direction and management of its affairs. He was one of the organizers of the Junction State Bank, of which he has been president since its inception, while his son-in-law, S. J. Sebor, is cashier. In addition to his modern brick residence Mr. Grashorn is the owner of a large barn and a potato warehouse in the near vicinity.

On April 1, 1891, Mr. Grashorn's wife was appointed postmistress of Junction City and held that office four years, being succeeded by A. E. Arians as postmaster, who held the position a like period. Mr. Grashorn was then appointed postmaster, and held the office until 1915, when he resigned because of poor health. In politics Mr. Grashorn is a republican, and has frequently been the incumbent of public offices. He was township clerk of Carson Township for two years and served for about fifteen years as deputy and under sheriff. Largely through his efforts Junction City was incorporated, and at that time he became a member of the board of supervisors, a position which he held continuously until 1915. He is religiously inclined to be independent, but has always supported good movements for worthy

causes and has contributed to movements making for morality and better citizenship. His fraternal connections are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Beavers.

Mr. Grashorn was married June 30, 1887, to Miss Antoinette Herrick, who was born June 28, 1859, in Waushara County, Wisconsin, a daughter of J. T. and Mary Jane (Gower) Herrick. Mrs. Herrick died in 1865, and in 1887 Mr. Herrick came to Junction City, where he lived with his son-in-law, Mr. Grashorn, until his death in 1903, when he was sixty-eight years of age. The maternal grandmother of Mrs. Grashorn was Eva (Kenney) Gower, who came from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, to Waushara County, Wisconsin, with an ox-team, spending her last days at the home of Mr. Grashorn and attaining the remarkable age of ninety-seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Grashorn had but one child, a son, who died in infancy. They reared as their adopted daughter Lorinda Akey, who is now the wife of S. J. Sebora, cashier of the Junction State Bank. Mr. and Mrs. Sebora have three children: Verna Antoinette, born October 10, 1907; Lester Henry, born September 23, 1912; and David Howard, born September 9, 1916.

CHARLES H. PACKARD, who for many years has been chief of the Stevens Point fire department and also actively identified with business affairs at the county seat, is member of a pioneer family and his father was one of the leading lawyers of Central Wisconsin.

Mr. Packard was born at Stevens Point April 26, 1856, a son of W. H. and Elizabeth (Berton) Packard. His father was born in Massachusetts December 24, 1828, and his mother in Vermont in 1836. She lost her parents when a girl and was brought to Plainfield, Wisconsin, and reared in the home of Walter Beach. W. H. Packard came to Wisconsin in 1850, and he and his wife were married at Plainfield February 28, 1853. By trade he was a millwright and built and operated sawmills in Wood, Portage and Marathon counties for a number of years. He became a factor in public affairs in Portage County and in the fall of 1858 was elected register of deeds, an office he held three successive terms. He was also deputy county treasurer and deputy county clerk two years, and then for six years was clerk of courts for Portage County. In the meantime he studied law, was admitted to the bar, and on retiring from office became a law partner with James O. Raymond. After four years of this partnership he served one year as city attorney and one year as city clerk, and in 1884 moved to Hayward in Sawyer County, Wisconsin, and was there elected district attorney of the county and later was district attorney of Bayfield County. He held that office  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years and then practiced law privately until his death on April 21, 1899. He was a very active republican and was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His wife died December 23, 1915. They had ten children: George A., Charles H., Jane L., Addie and Hattie, twins, Mary, William, Howard, Clark and John.

Charles H. Packard was reared in Plover until 1870, since which date his home and activities have been at Stevens Point. For a number of years he has been in the general contracting business. His connection with the fire department began twenty years ago, and he was formerly captain of the hook and ladder company, but for seventeen



years has been chief of the entire department, and in that time has developed its efficiency and apparatus to the highest degree of effectiveness. Mr. Packard is a republican and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

In 1881 he married Miss Jennie M. Woodrow, of Detroit, Michigan. She died September 16, 1904, and on February 24, 1906, he married Mrs. Edith Zimmer. Mrs. Packard was born in Stevens Point July 3, 1875, daughter of W. and May Wagoner. Her parents were married at Stevens Point December 7, 1861, and her father died there September 4, 1909, aged seventy-five, and her mother on June 3, 1908, aged sixty-one. Mrs. Packard was one of a family of eleven children: Lewis G., one that died in infancy, Henry, Mary, Emil, Otto, Joseph, Edith, Rudolph, Herman and Alexander.

**JAMES B. CARPENTER.** One of the oldest residents of Portage County, whose name and record deserve the tribute of this memorial in permanent form, is James B. Carpenter, who came to this county more than sixty years ago and after being disabled for active physical service has given the value of a man's abilities to varied public duties.

Mr. Carpenter was born at Ischua in Cattaraugus County, New York, October 10, 1833, a son of Frederick and Elsie (Hibner) Carpenter. His father was born in Massachusetts November 4, 1804, and his mother in New York State May 12, 1810. They were married in New York and spent most of their years on a farm 1½ miles from the Village of Ischua in Cattaraugus County, New York. That farm is still owned by Mrs. Frederick Lyman Carpenter. The record of their children is as follows: David H., born October 27, 1831; James B., born October 10, 1833; Sidney B., born November 2, 1834; Ruth E., born December 26, 1835; Frederick L., born May 10, 1837; Sarah E., born June 8, 1838; Levi P., born October 10, 1839; Junius T., born May 5, 1842; Spencer N., born September 7, 1843; Caroline, born March 10, 1845; and Charles E., born March 23, 1850.

James B. Carpenter grew up on the old homestead in New York and lived there until he was twenty-two years of age. In 1855 he came into the western wilderness and arrived in Portage County in company with William Osgood and M. H. Munger. His active and venturesome spirit found an outlet in the energies of the woods and the river and he was a regular factor in the lumber industry in this part of Wisconsin until he lost his left leg while running a raft of lumber on the Wisconsin River. That injury came to him in 1860. Since then he has been a resident of Portage County and again and again chosen to public office. He was elected clerk of court of the county, filled that office for some years, later was county clerk, served as justice of the peace, and for the past ten years has been township supervisor. In politics he was reared in a democratic atmosphere, but with the events of the war he turned to the republican doctrine and has continued an unbroken allegiance to that party. He is a Methodist, while Mrs. Carpenter is a Lutheran.

Mr. Carpenter married for his first wife in Buena Vista Township Ruth Porter. At her death in 1877 she left the following children: Ella, Esther, Sidney F., Frank, and James R. In 1879 Mr. Carpenter married Rhoda Guthre, who was born in Norway, March 1, 1858, was reared in that country, and in 1873 came to Waupaca County, Wisconsin. Her parents, Peter and Rhoda Guthre, spent their

last days in Waupaca County on a farm in Helvetia Township. There were thirteen children in the Guthrie family, five of whom are living, namely: Ole, in Norway; Simon P., in Iola, Wisconsin; Pernilla, in Vernon County, Wisconsin; Palena, of Waupaca County; and Mrs. Rhoda Carpenter. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter had one son, Jesse B., who died in infancy.

WAITE BEACH BUCKINGHAM was one of the veteran business men of Stevens Point, and not only built up a large and successful business but bore one of the highly honored names of the county. His death July 22, 1913, represented a great loss to the community. Since his death his insurance business has been continued by Mrs. Buckingham, and it is now the oldest insurance agency of Stevens Point.

The late Mr. Buckingham was born at Flint, Michigan, March 14, 1837, son of Lyman and Salome (Beach) Buckingham. His parents were pioneer settlers on a farm near Flint, Michigan, and at one time the father was sheriff of that county. Lyman Buckingham died at Detroit, Michigan, when about ninety years of age. Waite B. Buckingham was reared and educated at Flint, attended the public schools there, and as a youth he was a teacher for a time. In 1849, when he was only twelve years old, he and his brother Charles and their mother had the active management and responsibility of the home farm during the absence of the father in the gold fields of California. Later Mr. Buckingham engaged in the drug business at Flint and was also interested in a saw mill and lumber manufacturing. In 1871 he came to Stevens Point and for a time looked after the timber lands of Mr. W. S. Patrick. When Mr. Patrick established a private bank Mr. Buckingham continued in his service as cashier of the bank. In the meantime, in 1876, Mr. Buckingham established his insurance agency, so that for more than forty years it has supplied that indispensable service to the community. From 1886 to 1900, for fourteen years, Mr. Buckingham was cashier of the First National Bank of Stevens Point and one of its stockholders. He was very active in business affairs, and gave a liberal cooperation to every public movement. He was a republican, and was prominent in Masonry, being affiliated with Evergreen Lodge No. 93, Free and Accepted Masons, Forest Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, and was one of the organizers of Crusade Commandery, Knights Templar. He was first made a Mason at Flint, Michigan, in 1861, became a member of the Royal Arch Chapter at Flint in March, 1864, and took the Knights Templar degrees in the Pontiac Commandery in 1865. He was also prominent in the Presbyterian Church of Stevens Point.

In 1861 Mr. Buckingham married Fanny Hammersley, of Flint. She died in December, 1901, leaving one daughter, Grace, who died in 1904, as the wife of John Campbell, a son of Guy Campbell, one of the pioneer railroad men of Stevens Point.

December 28, 1909, Mr. Buckingham married Miss Bertha A. Scott. Mrs. Buckingham was born in Boscobel, Wisconsin, a daughter of Andrew and Armina (Petty) Scott. Her father was born in New York City January 1, 1836, and died February 6, 1911. Her mother was born at Conneaut, Ohio, June 6, 1841, and died June 18, 1910. Andrew Scott came to Stevens Point as pioneer in 1855 with his parents, James and Ann (Anthony) Scott, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of New Jersey. James Scott came to the

United States when about nineteen years of age and at one time operated a line of boats in New York harbor. On removing to Portage County he took up a farm of Government land twelve miles north of Stevens Point and was also prominent in the lumber industry, operating under the name James Scott & Sons. However, his son Andrew was active manager of the property. Andrew Scott was educated in New York City and for many years was a factor in the lumber business of Central Wisconsin. In politics he was a republican and he and his wife were active in the Presbyterian Church. James Scott was a Methodist and did much to build up church sentiment and keep up Sunday school work in the county. Andrew Scott operated lumber yards at Boscobel, Wisconsin, at Dubuque, Iowa, and at Monticello, Iowa, and carried on a very extensive business. He was affiliated with Evergreen Lodge No. 93, Free and Accepted Masons, and with the Royal Arch Chapter and Crusade Commandery. Mr. Scott and wife had four children: Bertha; Harold A., who is a dentist by profession and is proprietor of a drug store at Milwaukee; Ethel. Mrs. Robert K. McDonald, of Stevens Point; and Louise, wife of F. D. Reynolds, of Stevens Point.

Mrs. Buckingham was educated in the Stevens Point High School, and also at Ripon College. She is a woman of thorough business training and acquired a good knowledge of the insurance business as an employee of Mr. Buckingham before her marriage, this experience enabling her to carry on the business since his death. During all his life Mr. Buckingham was active in the Presbyterian Church and for many years was an elder in the Stevens Point Church. He was widely known as a singer and from young manhood sang in the choir, both in the Flint and Stevens Point churches. Mrs. Buckingham has also all her life been identified with that church, beginning as its organist when a girl, and has done much to keep up the musical part of the church program for years.

**PETER EIDEN.** One of the vigorous upstanding and capable men of Portage County who have now gone to their reward was the late Peter Eiden, who lived here and performed his duties as a farmer, home maker and good citizen for a long period of years.

He was born in Germany September 29, 1835, a son of Nicholas and Mary (Weber) Eiden. His father was born in 1805 and his mother in 1810. On December 6, 1855, the parents with some of their children, including Peter, who was then past twenty years of age, left Trier, Germany, and in March, 1856, landed at Philadelphia. They then crossed half the continent to Wisconsin, and from Fond du Lac moved on into Portage County, making this stage of their journey by wagon and team. Nicholas Eiden was a man of much enterprise and with foresight acquired about 500 acres of land, wild and uncultivated, and by his own labors and those of his sturdy sons cleared up most of it, and thus contributed no small amount of agricultural assets to the county. Nicholas Eiden died in this county in 1893 and his wife in 1890. They were very devout members of the Catholic Church and assisted in building some of the first churches and also gave three acres of land for church and school at Ellis. In their family were the following children: John, who was the first of the family to come to America, reaching this country in 1850; Peter; Mathias; Nicholas; John; and four other sons who died in infancy.

Peter Eiden was reared and educated in Germany, and had attained manhood and was ready to take up the serious responsibilities of life when he located with his parents in Sharon Township in 1856. About his first enterprise on his own account was the securing of one acre of land at Ellis, on which he established a store and saloon. Later he bought two acres more of land in the same village. In 1875 he bought eighty acres of timber at Alban, and in 1878 established a shingle mill. This mill was burned in 1881 and he decided not to rebuild it and soon sold the timber and land. Subsequently his father gave him eighty acres where Mrs. Eiden now lives, and he also acquired 120 acres of swamp land. However, his home and the center of his enterprise for many years was in the Village of Ellis, where he continued as a general merchant until 1880 and kept his saloon until 1883. He finally retired to his farm and died there October 19, 1912.

He was a citizen of much prominence. For four years he served as township treasurer and for several years was also school treasurer. He was a democrat and an active member of the Catholic Church.

June 17, 1874, Mr. Eiden married Miss Margaret Eiden, who was born in Germany June 6, 1850, daughter of Peter and Catherine (Eiden) Eiden. Her father was born in 1817 and her mother April 18, 1826. They were married in the old country in 1849, and most of their children were born there. On April 25, 1873, the Eiden family arrived in Stevens Point and soon afterwards settled in Sharon Township, where they bought 120 acres of land from Mr. Tack. Later he acquired 200 acres in New Hope Township. Mrs. Eiden's father died at Ellis in 1879, and her mother passed away in 1881. Mrs. Eiden was the oldest of seven children, the others being: John, who lives on the old farm in New Hope Township; Peter, who died in 1900, in New Hope Township, leaving a widow and eight children, his widow now living in Minnesota; Nicholas, of Stevens Point; Helen, wife of John Kolz, of Sharon Township; Adam of New Hope Township; and Mathias, of Ellis.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Eiden in 1900 enjoyed a trip abroad to Germany, where they spent three months visiting old scenes and friends and relatives. Mrs. Eiden is the mother of four living children. Four of those born to her and her husband died in early infancy, while one, Mathias, died at the age of two years. The oldest of the family is Peter Mathias. The second, John, born April 23, 1880, was educated in the public schools, is a baker by trade and is unmarried. Joseph, born May 15, 1883, is also unmarried and a baker living at Sheboygan, Michigan. Anthony, born June 22, 1889, is a butter maker by trade, but is now working in the shipyards at Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Peter Mathias Eiden, who was born on the old farm at Ellis, has always lived at home and is now managing with much success the old homestead for his mother. He was educated in the public schools, and since taking the responsibility and management of the farm has improved it with a number of modern buildings. In 1913 he built a silo 12 by 24 feet. He raises good stock of different kinds and is breeder of Guernsey cattle. Politically he is a democrat and is now a director of the Stockton Township Fire Insurance Company and for the past three years has been clerk of his school board. November 29, 1916, Peter M. Eiden married Miss Josephine Ott. She was born in Chicago February 15, 1881, daughter of John and Mary (Bauer)

Ott, both natives of Germany. Grandfather Adam Ott was a pioneer settler at Hilbert, Wisconsin, but later moved to Chicago, where he spent his last days. Her mother, Mary Bauer, came with her parents to Hilbert, Wisconsin, in early days. John Ott and wife married in Chicago, and he lived in that city until his death in 1896. Mrs. Eiden's mother died in 1917, at the age of seventy-five. Her father was sixty-two when he died. Mrs. Peter M. Eiden was one of seven children: Anne, Hubert, Katie, Julia, Josephine, Nora and Elizabeth. Peter M. Eiden and wife have one son, Peter Anthony, born October 21, 1917.

REV. LUCAS J. PESCIANSKI. Located in one of the most populous and prosperous Polish Catholic communities of the county, the Catholic Church of Polonia is one of the largest institutions of the kind in the county, and draws to its worship hundreds of families living in this prosperous district.

The rector of the church is Father Pescinski, who has been pastor of several churches in Portage County, and has distinguished himself by his constructive work and the splendid zeal he has manifested in the performance of every duty.

He was born at Biezun, Poland, October 10, 1859. In 1869 he came to America with his parents, and grew up at Milwaukee. He attended St. Francis Seminary and was ordained to the priesthood in 1884. His first charge was at Seymour, where he remained about 2½ years and also attended four missions nearby, including Black Creek, Little Freedom, Hoffa Park and Pulaski. In these mentioned he ministered to the needs of German, English and Polish speaking people. Father Pescinski took charge of the church at Casimer in Portage County and was there nine years. Among other duties he erected a parochial school. Then for 1½ years he was at Menasha, and in 1896 became pastor of St. Peter's Church at Stevens Point, where he remained the pastor until 1909. While at Stevens Point he erected the modern church edifice, schoolhouse and the St. Joseph Polish Academy. From 1909 to 1916 he was pastor at Fancher in Portage County and while there he was responsible for the building of the parochial school and also installed new altars in the church and decorated the same. On September 1, 1916, he came to the Sacred Heart of Jesus Church at Polonia, and here also his work as a leader and builder has been manifested. In 1918 the church was decorated by Bernhard Merkiewicz of Chicago under the supervision of Father Pescinski.

Father Pescinski is a son of Stanislaus and Rose (Sadowska) Pescinski, both of whom spent their last days with their son at Stevens Point. The mother died in 1901, aged sixty-five, and the father in 1907, at the age of seventy. They are buried in the family mausoleum near St. Joseph's Convent at Stevens Point. In the family were six children: Rev. Lucas J.; Veronica, wife of John Benka, of Stevens Point, and their daughter is housekeeper for Father Pescinski; Vincent, who is in the dry goods business in Chicago; Mary, who died in 1902; Alexander and Annie, both living at Portland, Oregon.

GILBERT NEWBY. A resident of Portage County over sixty years, Gilbert Newby is one of the stanch and sturdy followers of agriculture

in Buena Vista Township, and is a man who in all the relations of a busy life has stood true to principle, has been successful in his affairs, and is known and honored for his fine family and the good influence that has always radiated from his home.

Mr. Newby was born in Canada April 5, 1850, a son of John and Delilah (Uphagrove) Newby. The Newby family is well known in Portage County and reference is made to other members within these pages. John Newby was born in Nova Scotia in 1819, a son of Thomas Newby. Reared and educated in Canada, where he married, John Newby came to the United States in 1855 and in the same year settled in Buena Vista Township as a pioneer. His first land was eighty acres, which he cleared from the woods, and in that locality he continued his industrious efforts until 1882. Retiring, he lived at Stevens Point until his death in 1891. His first wife and the mother of his children died in October, 1877, at the age of forty-seven. They had the following children: Angeline; Gilbert; John, who died February 5, 1917; Mary, who died at the age of eight years; Edwin, of North Dakota; Lewis Albert, who died February 1, 1917; Warren A., of Greenville, Ohio; and Irvin C., of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. For his second wife the father married Lavina Vandervort.

John Newby proved his willingness to fight for his adopted country when he enlisted in September, 1862, in Company E of the Thirty-second Wisconsin Infantry. He was in active service nearly two years, until mustered out and granted his honorable discharge in June, 1865. He and his wife were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and in politics he voted as a republican.

Gilbert Newby grew up on the old farm in Buena Vista Township. His educational opportunities were those of the common schools of his day. He participated in the vigorous and rather exciting work in which nearly all the earlier residents of Portage County had a share, work in the woods and on the river. After lumbering for several years he bought a farm in section 10 of Buena Vista Township, comprising 160 acres, and after bringing it to some degree of development and cultivation sold and in 1883 bought his present place of 120 acres in section 8. This is one of the excellent farms of the township and one of its conspicuous improvements is a large barn 53½ by 80 feet. This barn furnishes ample facilities for his work as a stock raiser.

Mr. Newby has participated in public affairs to the extent of serving as township clerk, as justice of the peace and as member of the school board. He votes as a republican. March 18, 1874, he married Miss Rosa E. Clark, member of another pioneer family of Portage County. She was born at New Berlin in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, March 26, 1855, daughter of Scott and Sylvia (Scagen) Clark. Her parents were natives of Waterbury, Vermont, her father born in 1820 and her mother in 1822, and both represented old New England stock. They arrived in Wisconsin and settled in Waukesha County in 1847, when Wisconsin was still a territory. In 1857 they moved to Portage County, locating in Buena Vista Township, where her father died in 1868 and her mother in 1912. Both were active members of the Baptist Church, and her father was a democrat. Mrs. Newby's parents had the following children: Lucy, who died in infancy; George S.; Lucy; Ripley; Rosa E.; and Hazen. Mrs. Newby was liberally educated, attending public school in Buena Vista Town-

ship and also the Waukesha High School. There are many people who gratefully remember her for her services as a teacher. She taught a number of years before her marriage, and for five terms was connected with the schools at Lake Thomas, Wisconsin. The record of Mr. and Mrs. Newby's children is as follows:

Myrtle T., born May 21, 1875, married N. W. Sanders and they live in South Dakota. Their four children are Ralph, Clifford, Floyd and Wilbur. Mabel I., born August 14, 1880, is the wife of Elmer Eskritt, of Lanark Township, Portage County, and they have four children, Sylvia, Harry, Arlene and Lucile. Effie, who was born September 29, 1882, is the wife of George Van Buskirk, Jr., of Lanark Township, and they have one child, Carroll. The fourth and fifth children are Raymond E. and Ripley G., twins, born January 27, 1885. Raymond married Edith Myers, of Stevens Point, and has a son, Wayne, born January 26, 1917. Ripley married Anna Precourt and they have two children, Beverley and Bonita. The youngest of the family is Violet, born May 4, 1896. She is a graduate of the State Normal School at Stevens Point and is now the wife of Harry Peterson, of Lanark Township, and the mother of one daughter, Verla Grace.

CHARLES STEFFANUS. The year 1855 was a period of pioneer times in Portage County. This district had become the home of civilized men only a few years before, and most of the land was uncleared, the woods stood dense and rank, and only here and there were clearings made with log cabin homes and small crops of grain growing.

It was in that year that the Steffanus family was established here. They have been prominently represented now for over sixty years in the agricultural and in the affairs of different communities, and one of the name was the late Charles Steffanus, for many years an aggressive and expert farmer in Sharon Township, where his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Steffanus, still resides.

Charles Steffanus was born December 15, 1854, at Eden in Erie County, New York, a son of William and Melania (Pagoon) Steffanus. His father was born in Lorraine, August 18, 1820, and his mother in Alsace, November 1, 1820. On coming to America they lived for a time in Western New York, and in 1855 moved to Portage County, Wisconsin, and located in Sharon Township. The father acquired 320 acres of Government land. That land, now transformed into a splendid farm, is owned and occupied by Mrs. Charles Steffanus. William Steffanus was a man of great strength, enterprise and ability. In order to reach his homestead he had to cut a road through the heavy woods. For his first habitation he built a shack, and not long afterward it burned down. He was not a man of great means, and when his home was destroyed he had only \$100 left. He therefore built a log house, and in 1876 it was replaced by a substantial building of stone, the material being quarried from his own farm. He acquired a large amount of land, and lived there and prospered until his death on August 14, 1896. The widowed mother died September 24, 1910. William Steffanus was a democrat and was a loyal churchman and helped establish St. Martin's Church at Ellis. He and his wife had five children: Rose, Charles, Lewis, Mary and William.

Mr. Charles Steffanus was an infant when brought to Portage County and grew up on the old home farm and attended the public

schools. He always lived in one locality, though for about sixteen winters he worked at different points in the lumber woods. He acquired the homestead of 320 acres and busied himself with its care and cultivation and improvement until his death on December 13, 1907. He was a democrat and served as treasurer of St. Martin's Church.

April 23, 1888, Mr. Steffanus married Miss Elizabeth Eiden. She was born in Germany June 24, 1867, daughter of John and Mary Eiden, both of whom spent all their lives in their native country. Her mother died February 28, 1886, and her father February 18, 1910. They had children named John, Ann Mary, Annie, Adam, Elizabeth, Margaret, Helen, Barbara, Mary and Peter. Those now deceased are John, Adam, who died in infancy, also Margaret, and Barbara. Mrs. Steffanus came to America with her sister Barbara, arriving at St. Paul, Minnesota, August 13, 1887. Her brother John had already established a home in that city. She was married in St. Paul. Mrs. Steffanus became the mother of seven children: John William, born September 17, 1889, died at the age of five years; Felix Jacob, born March 3, 1891, died May 9, 1892; Martin John, born March 30, 1893; Clara Elizabeth, born February 25, 1896, who graduated from the Stevens Point Normal in 1918 and is now a teacher; Philip Nicholas, born September 14, 1898; Lucy Margaret, born February 21, 1901, a graduate of the rural course in the Stevens Point Normal and already a school teacher; and Clement Joseph, born September 17, 1903. The sons Martin and Philip are now the active managers of the home farm, and are conducting it with a high degree of skill and profit. They have a fine herd of about twenty-six Guernsey cattle, some of them thoroughbred. In addition to general farming and stock raising they also operate the old stone quarry on the farm, and have supplied much material for local building, including St. Joseph's Church at Stevens Point.

**SIMEON EARL CARLEY.** A man of high intellectual attainments and of practical ability as well, Simeon E. Carley is one of the modern leaders in the advancement of Portage County as an agricultural and livestock center. He has shown a strong bent towards the scientific technique of modern agriculture, and develops his talents both by practical experience and by constant work in the Wisconsin Agricultural College and through study and experimentation and observation carried on at his own stock farm and throughout this part of Wisconsin.

Mr. Carley owns the old Carley homestead, which has been the home of the family in Portage County for many years. It is located in Buena Vista Township, and it was there that he was born December 9, 1880. He grew up in that locality, attended the public schools and spent one year in the Stevens Point Normal. Mr. Carley was a successful school teacher for eight years before he settled down to the regular routine of farming. Besides the 100 acres of the old homestead he has an adjoining forty acres known as the Ainsworth Farm. Everything on his place is an illustration of up to date farming.

Mr. Carley has the distinction of establishing the first herd of thoroughbred Holstein cattle in Buena Vista Township. He acquired the nucleus of this herd in 1907 and has been at no little expense and constant pains to keep his stock up to the highest standards of the registry. He is president of the Portage County Holstein Breeders



Association. He is a successful dairyman as well as general farmer and stock breeder.

Mr. Carley has done a great deal of institute work and university extension work for the past four years. He is a fluent speaker and has that effectiveness which is a product of demonstrated success. He is one of the valuable leaders of agricultural methods in this part of the state.

Mr. Carley is a progressive republican and has held the office of side supervisor. He is affiliated with Plover Lodge No. 76, Free and Accepted Masons, and with the Modern Woodmen of America. December 24, 1903, he married Miss Sadie Van Buskirk. They have two children, Meredith and Marjorie.

His father was the late Simeon Carley, long prominent as a good citizen and farmer of Portage County. Simeon, Sr., was born in New York State November 19, 1839, son of Richard and Matilda (Van Horn) Carley. His parents removed to Illinois in 1845, were farmers in that state, and about 1858 came to Portage County and bought a farm in Buena Vista Township. Later they lived on a farm in Plover Township, and Richard Carley was extensively engaged in buying and selling land. He died in Plover Township, while his first wife passed away in Illinois. She was the mother of Simeon, William and Emma, all now deceased. Richard Carley married for his second wife Jane Segar, and there were two sons of that marriage, Franklin and Andrew.

The late Simeon Carley was nineteen years old when his parents came to Portage County. He was a man of vigorous constitution and took part in the arduous work, which attracted so many strong young men at that time in the lumber woods and as a river man. In 1861 he enlisted in Company E of the Seventh Wisconsin Infantry, and was a member of the famous Iron Brigade, whose record is familiar to every intelligent and patriotic Wisconsin citizen. He was in service until the close of the war, and on returning to this county bought a farm in Buena Vista Township. That farm is now the home of his son Simeon E. It consisted of 100 acres when he died on January 7, 1908. His widow is still living in the county. Simeon Carley was a republican and a very active man of affairs in his home township, serving as supervisor, treasurer, assessor and school director. One of his dominant characteristics was charity and helpfulness to all who were less fortunate than himself. He was affiliated with Lodge No. 76 of the Masonic Order at Plover and with the Grand Army Post.

January 24, 1866, Simeon Carley married Angeline Newby. She was born in Canada September 8, 1848, and is a daughter of John and Delilah (Uphagrove) Newby and a sister of Mr. Gilbert Newby, elsewhere mentioned. Simeon Carley and wife had five children: Hugh, who died when eleven years old; Cora, who died at the age of thirteen; Minnie, wife of Lewis Prescott, a Buena Vista Township farmer, and she is the mother of two children, Harry and Neil; Libbie, wife of DeForest Gates, a farmer of Buena Vista Township, and their children are Harold, Myrle and Charles; and Simeon Earl, who is the youngest of the family.

JOHN F. URBANOWSKI has been a cigar maker since early youth and has built up a profitable business of that kind.

He is a native of this county and the county seat, born September

10, 1884, and member of a prominent family. His father was Michael Urbanowski. John F. Urbanowski was educated in the parochial and public schools and in the Stevens Point Business College, and was only thirteen years old when he began working in a cigar factory. After acquiring a thorough knowledge of the business he was a cigar maker on his own account at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, for eight years, and also followed his trade in North Dakota and in Milwaukee and Chicago. In 1912 he returned to Stevens Point and established a cigar factory at 818 Fifth Avenue. He learned his trade with John Langowski of Stevens Point.

Mr. John F. Urbanowski owns the old homestead of the family at 820 Fifth Avenue. In politics he is a democrat and a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church.

May 4, 1915, he married Miss Johanna Prais, who was born at Stevens Point May 16, 1888, daughter of Joseph and Mary Prais, of another well known family of Stevens Point.

GEORGE HERMAN MUNROE, whose business as a merchant at Kellner is an appreciated service in that section of Portage County, has been identified with this community for fifteen years. He is a native of Wisconsin, and his family is not only an old one in this state, but in some of the lines the ancestry goes back to the earliest colonial period.

He was born March 10, 1870, son of James and Lucy (Burroughs) Munroe. His father, who was born in Nova Scotia in 1842, was brought to the United States when a child and received his first schooling here. About 1855 the family moved to Rock County, Wisconsin, where he completed his education. His father died in Rock County, and his mother, Nancy Munroe, passed away at Hastings, Nebraska, in 1914, at the venerable age of ninety-six. James Munroe after reaching manhood settled in Jefferson County. He enlisted in the Thirteenth Wisconsin and served three years, until the close of the war in 1865. He went later to Adams County, Wisconsin, and his death in April, 1873, was the result of drowning at Port Edwards in the Wisconsin River.

Lucy Burroughs, mother of George H. Munroe, was born in New York State in 1848, a daughter of Robert and Harriet (Moffatt) Burroughs. The Moffatt line runs back through continuous generations to the time of the Mayflower. Robert Burroughs was a native of New York State and his wife of Massachusetts. They were among the first settlers of Jefferson County, Wisconsin, and from there moved to Adams County in this state and lived in that section when the Indians were as numerous as the whites. Robert Burroughs died in Adams County in 1877, when about sixty-seven years of age, and his wife in 1894, at the age of seventy-two. Mrs. Lucy Munroe is living at Wautoma, Wisconsin, at the age of seventy. She was the mother of four children: Frank, now at Ladysmith, Wisconsin; Ettie, who died in infancy; George H.; and Matie, deceased.

George Herman Munroe was only three years old when his father died, and in the following year he went to Adams County and lived with his mother and grandparents. He received his education in the public schools there and as a boy began working on the farm at monthly wages. Later he acquired his grandfather Burroughs' farm of 160 acres, and was prosperously identified with agriculture there until

1903. On selling out his Adams County property he came to Portage County and opened a small stock of general merchandise at Kellner. His service as a merchant was much appreciated and his business grew and in 1905 his stock of goods was housed in a larger store. Besides his store Mr. Munroe owns land in Rusk County and also other property in Wood County. He is a republican in politics and while a resident of Adams County served as township clerk seven years and for a similar term was a member of the local school board.

In January, 1894, he married Miss Alice Ely. She was born in Adams County, Wisconsin, August 16, 1870, a daughter of Oscar and Annette (Gardner) Ely. Her parents were early settlers of Adams County and are still living. They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in December, 1913. Mrs. Munroe's father and mother reside at Kellner, the former aged seventy-nine and the latter seventy-three. Mr. and Mrs. Munroe had five children: The oldest died in infancy; Crystal Belle, Gladys Ely, Ruth Alice and Lucy Annette.

**JACKSON CALKINS.** In the citizenship of Portage County in the country around Amherst there was no more honored name than that of Jackson Calkins, a pioneer, a man of splendid integrity, of magnificent energy, and his memory is one that deserves permanent record among the representative men of Portage County.

He was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, September 27, 1826. In 1830 his parents moved to Oneida, New York State, where his father was interested in the lumber industry. When Jackson was eight years old his father died, leaving a family of four daughters and three sons. Jackson was the youngest son. When he was about thirteen, in 1839, his widowed mother moved to Kenosha, Wisconsin, where her three oldest children had preceded her, the year before, in 1838. In 1839 Mrs. Calkins took up a pre-emption at Kenosha, north of Pleasant Prairie, and spent her last years in this state.

May 2, 1847, Jackson Calkins married Diadamia Z. Sabin, also of Kenosha. She was born in Canadaigua Village, New York State, March 14, 1829. In 1846 Mr. Sabin moved his family to Kenosha, Wisconsin, and in 1847 after his daughter's marriage he returned to his old home in Canadaigua, New York.

In 1848 Jackson Calkins moved to Forrest, where he took up a pre-emption on the road between Fond du Lac and Sheboygan, fourteen miles from the former city. In December, 1854, at the age of twenty-eight he moved to a place near Sheridan, then called Sessions Prairie. The following month, in January, 1855, he moved his family to that farm, but in the fall of 1855 came to Portage County and acquired the land which his daughter Josephine now owns in Amherst Junction.

Jackson Calkins developed his land there and was successfully engaged in its management until his death, which occurred January 3, 1896. The deed to the old farm is dated September 15, 1855. His wife died on that farm August 21, 1870, leaving a family of five children to his care. The old Calkins place comprises 108 acres, though at different times Jackson Calkins owned several other tracts in that vicinity. When he bought the land only twenty acres had been cleared and it was his individual labors that cut down the trees and brush and made the land capable of growing crops on practically every acre. Mr. Calkins was always interested in local affairs, held offices on the school



*Jackson Balkin*

board and for many years was a justice of the peace. Many exciting local law suits were tried in his home.

He was the father of seven children: Josephine, Helen, Frank Jay, Charles S., Mary E., Lafayette A. and DeWitt. Those now living are Josephine and Frank Jay.

Charles S. Calkins was born in Forrest, September 14, 1854. He came to Portage County with his parents in 1855. After finishing in the district school he attended the high school at Amherst, then went to Fond du Lac to business college. After graduating from business college at Fond du Lac he returned home and worked on the farm from the spring until fall. He then went with the Wisconsin Central Railroad as fireman and the following year was given an engine. He was in the service of that railroad until 1884, when he went to Winnipeg, then in the Northwest Territory, now the Province of Manitoba. For ten years he had an engine on the main line between Winnipeg and Medicine Hat. After leaving the railroad company he took charge of his ranch near Medicine Hat, his family remaining in that town. He afterwards spent two or three years prospecting at Atlin, British Columbia, where some valuable property is still owned by his estate. In 1885 he married Miss Agnes Crawford of Winnipeg, who survives him with six children. Charles Calkins died November 15, 1908.

Mary E. Calkins, who was born at Amherst, December 9, 1856, married a Mr. Wells, October 24, 1874. In 1875 she moved to Texas and died in Houston, that state, December 6, 1885, leaving her husband with three children, two sons and one daughter.

Lafayette A. Calkins, the third son of Jackson Calkins, was born September 5, 1860. He finished his education in Amherst, attended the high school at Stevens Point, and after graduating attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison. He studied for a profession and was admitted to the bar in 1882, having previously studied in the law offices of Walter R. Barnes, afterwards for one term district attorney of Portage County. In 1886 he married Miss Bertha F. Burns at Fort Howard. She was a resident of Fort Howard. He practiced in Stevens Point until 1887, when he moved to Ashland, where he served as judge. In 1894 he moved to Green Bay, where he held several offices and lived there until his death on February 6, 1913. He was survived by a wife and two children, named Earle M. and Reginald Jackson Calkins. Reginald Jackson Calkins enlisted for service in the great war and was trained for the aviation section in Princeton University, entering as a cadet corporal and in a week or so was promoted to cadet sergeant, then to cadet lieutenant, and was graduated as a cadet major. On the field of practice in France before going into actual combat he defeated his own instructor. He sailed from New York overseas August 27, 1918, and was killed in action the last day of the war at the age of twenty years. This gallant young aviator was a great favorite of his aunt Miss Josephine Calkins, and during school vacations he usually spent his time with her and Lafayette on the old farm as he called it.

Miss Josephine Calkins was born at Forrest April 8, 1848 and was reared on the old farm at Amherst Junction, having gone there with her parents in 1855. After her mother's death she kept house for her father and the other children until they each went for themselves. She learned a trade and worked at it until September 5, 1888,

when she returned with the children of her brother, Frank, and since then has lived at the old homestead. The excellent house her father built burned down and she replaced it with the present modern home. Although she never married she has taken care of the children of her brother Frank since his wife's death. The little folks found a happy home at the old farm. Her nephew Lafayette A. has been with her more than the rest and seems almost her own son.

Her brother, Frank Jay Calkins, was born in Forrest, July 14, 1852, came to Portage County with his parents and has had a hard working career from boyhood up. He helped his father in clearing and developing the farm, and also did grading work on the Wisconsin Central, now the Soo Line, when it was built through Amherst Junction. The following winter he spent in school and in the summer again worked on the section and helped his father on the farm. The first locomotive he ever saw was on this line and from that instant his ambition was set upon becoming a locomotive engineer. He worked on the section at home and helped his father, and in 1874 went to Stevens Point, working on the section until late in the fall, when he was sent to 101, the end of the road, now called Worcester, as night watchman. Later he was fireman, and in December, 1876, was given his first locomotive and promoted to command of the throttle. March 4, 1877, Frank Jay Calkins married Miss Hattie St. John, who was born at Fond du Lac. Later she lived with her parents at Worcester, then at Phillip. Mr. Calkins was married in his father's home by the Methodist minister of Amherst. Frank Calkins first lived at Stevens Point after his marriage, and in 1881 moved to Ashland, where his wife died in 1888, leaving children named Ethel, Eugene, Maude, Fanny, Lafayette A. and Harry. These children Miss Josephine Calkins brought to the old home farm on September 5, 1888. Frank's oldest son was killed on the railroad at Appleton at the age of twenty-two, April 29, 1904. One by one Miss Calkins has been deprived of her other nieces and nephews except Ethel, who lives in California, and Lafayette A., whose home is at the Junction. Ethel was born in 1878. After finishing her schooling at the Amherst High School she attended and graduated from the business college of Green Bay. She married a Mr. W. Humes in 1898 and is now living in California.

Frank Jay Calkins was with the Wisconsin Central until 1888 and since then has been connected with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul of the Milwaukee system, living at Hilbert Junction. His son, Lafayette, since his mother's death when he was about three years of age, has grown up at the home farm of his aunt, and received his education at Amherst Junction and at Chilton. He was born at Ashland, October 21, 1885. He had an inclination toward mechanical pursuits, and for a time was employed as a stationary engineer at St. Louis, Missouri, also at Indianapolis, Indiana, living there three years. In the fall of 1900 he returned home to Amherst and in 1910 engaged in the flour and feed business. He was also one of the leading potato buyers in the county. April 27, 1910, Lafayette Calkins married Mrs. Daisy (Wescot) Breed of Chilton, Wisconsin. They have two children, Glenn and Willis. The Calkins family are all active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

IRVIN E. ALBERTIE, who was born on the farm where he now resides in Buena Vista Township January 4, 1858, represents one of the

very oldest families of the county. His mother's brother, John Eckels, was a settler here in 1845, three years before Wisconsin became a state. It was the very year Wisconsin was admitted to the Union that William Albertie, father of Irvin E., located in this region. William Albertie is remembered and held in the highest respect all over Portage County. He was one of its most successful farmers and for ten years held the office of county treasurer. He was the first incumbent of that office to occupy the courthouse at Stevens Point.

William Albertie was born in Pennsylvania in 1820 and on coming to Portage County in 1848 established his home at Plover, where he followed the trade of millwright. He helped put up many of the mills along the Wisconsin River. In 1853 he bought 160 acres of land, constituting a portion of the farm of his son in Buena Vista Township, and cleared it and constructed the house in which Irvin Albertie now lives. William Albertie was a staunch democrat in politics, and besides serving as county treasurer was chairman, assessor and treasurer for many years of Buena Vista Township. He spent his last years on the farm and died there February 29, 1892. He married Elizabeth Eckels, who was born at Findlay, Ohio, in 1827. She died November 14, 1914. Their children were five in number: Mary, Ella, George, deceased, Irvin E., and John, deceased.

Irvin E. Albertie grew up on the home farm, but when he was twelve years of age his parents moved to Stevens Point, and there he attended the famous old White School. Mr. Albertie is a veteran railway man, having been with the Wisconsin Central for a number of years as fireman and switch engineer. He left that occupation to return to the farm, and is now devoting his energies successfully to handling 280 acres. He has made many improvements, including a substantial barn and other buildings. Mr. Albertie is a democrat, like his father, and has served as treasurer of the township. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

November 27, 1884, he married Miss Grace E. Smith. Mrs. Albertie was born in Waupaca County December 12, 1867, and her people were also early settlers in Wisconsin. Her parents were James E. and Rosann (Humphries) Smith, the former born in New York State December 25, 1837, and her mother in England September 9, 1835. Her father came to Wisconsin, first locating at Green Bay, later in Portage County, and for a time was one of the drivers of the stage line of Jacob L. Myers. He married in Lanark Township of Portage County, and after living there a few years moved to Buena Vista Township of Portage County and acquired 170 acres of land, part of which was cleared by his individual labors. In 1881 he removed to South Dakota, then a territory, and there his wife died in 1887. He is now living, past eighty years of age, at Iroquois, South Dakota. The children of the Smith family were: Wallace, Frances, Grace E. Albertie, and Jessie M. and Mabel, both deceased.

To Mr. and Mrs. Albertie have been born eight children: William J., Fay, Ione and an infant all deceased; Irvin T., Jay K., Stephen J. and Dorris E.

ANTHONY PRAIN, JR., has been a resident of Portage County nearly all his life. He was here early enough to know the conditions which were a survival of earliest pioneer times, and has been a witness and a factor in changing the aspect of the country, improving

the farms, and making the entire region more productive in every sense. Mr. Prain is a successful farmer of Buena Vista Township and for a number of years he and his good wife worked side by side in the mutual task of making a home and bearing their responsibilities as good citizens.

Mr. Prain was born at Berlin, Germany, October 14, 1872, and was only a few months old when his parents, Anthony and Rosie (Hankey) Prain left the fatherland and came to Menominee, Michigan, where after a year of residence they moved to Princeton, Wisconsin, remained there about one year, and then located in Stevens Point. Anthony, Sr., was born in Germany in 1838 and his wife in 1840. The family had their home at Stevens Point for seven years, and Anthony, Sr., then acquired a forty acre farm in Stockton Township, east of Custer. Selling that he moved to Buena Vista Township and acquired the old George Nugent farm of 120 acres. That farm was the scene of a busy experience on the part of the family for fifteen years. It was then traded for the substantial property of 174 acres owned by Anthony Prain, Jr. The father continued to live here until 1915, when he moved to Wausau, where he is now living with his son John. The mother died in 1910. They were the parents of six children: John; Bertha, wife of James Turrish, living in California; Alexander, who died when eighteen years old; Anthony; Frank, who lives at Moscow, Idaho; and Mary, wife of Fred Tech, son of Carl Tech, mentioned elsewhere in this publication. Anthony Prain, Sr., is a democrat and a member of the Catholic Church.

Mr. Prain, Jr., began his schooling while the family was in Stevens Point. He also attended school in Stockton Township, Buena Vista Township. His early training influenced him to the choice of farming as a permanent vocation, and after some years of work for others he bought in 1915 the old homestead from his father. This fine farm is in section 7 of Buena Vista Township, and in point of productiveness and improvement stands as one of the most conspicuous in that locality. Mr. Prain built a large barn after he had acquired ownership. This barn was burned in 1917 and he has since then started construction of a thoroughly modern barn 40 by 76 feet. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising. Mr. Prain is a republican voter and has served as a member of his local school board.

In December, 1896, he married Iva May Whittaker, who was born in Buena Vista Township in August, 1870, daughter of Alphonso and Bell (Altenburg) Whittaker. Her father was an old timer of Portage County and is now deceased. Her mother, a daughter of John Altenburg, another prominent resident of Portage County, is now the wife of S. G. Stoddard, of Stevens Point.

Mr. and Mrs. Prain became the parents of three children: Howard, who died when thirteen years old; Florence, who has received her education in the schools of Stevens Point and is the wife of Irving Purdy, of Stevens Point; and Willis, who is a student in the Stevens Point High School.

CHARLES HENRY DORSCHIED. Farming is no longer a matter of haphazard work, loose and ineffective methods, but requires the same carefully directed energies that any other business does. It is due to the fact that he has followed well thought out plans, and has backed up every plan with a large volume of concentrated energy and effi-



ciency that Charles Henry Dorscheid ranks as one of the leading progressive farmers of Portage County.

The farm that he now owns and occupies is also his birthplace. He was born January 25, 1873, and represents a fine old family of early settlers and one of the good American citizens of Wisconsin. His parents, John and Catherine (Esse) Dorscheid, were both born in Europe. His father was born in Prussia, Germany, February 4, 1830. The mother was born in France January 21, 1833. They were brought to America as children by their respective parents, and they grew up in New York State and were married at Strykersville in Erie County of that state. While they were living there seven children were born to them: Peter, Jacob, Mary, John, Mary, Joseph and Kate. It will be noted two were named Mary, the first having died in infancy. In 1866 John Dorscheid and wife established their home in Portage County, and in the following year located on their farm of eighty acres now owned by their son Charles H. Much of that land was cleared up by the sturdy efforts of the father and he also erected the good buildings still standing. He was one of the esteemed residents of this community until his death April 2, 1912. His widow survived him until November 11, 1917. They were a notable old couple, to whom a large community was greatly endeared, and they had lived together for fifty-seven years of married companionship. After they came to Portage County four other children were born to them, named Frances, Annie, Eugene and Charles Henry. John Dorscheid always voted the democratic ticket. He and his family were Catholics.

Charles Henry Dorscheid grew up on the old homestead and was educated in the public schools. In early life he proved himself a capable farmer and in 1906 his industry enabled him to buy the old homestead of eighty acres, and in 1916 he bought another farm of sixty acres. He has kept his business up to modern standards of efficiency, and is constantly studying and working to improve his farm in the matter of buildings and everything that will contribute greater effectiveness and productiveness.

Mr. Dorscheid is now serving his third year as township supervisor. He is a democrat and a member of the Catholic Church. On November 28, 1901, he married Bertha Potter, who was born in Pine Grove Township of this county August 3, 1877, daughter of James and Eliza (Crawford) Potter. Her father was born in Canada January 23, 1832, and her mother was born at LaPorte, Indiana, June 10, 1841. They were married in Dodge County, Wisconsin, November 9, 1856, and in the following year established their home on a farm in Pine Grove Township, Portage County. Thus they were likewise among the honored pioneers of the county and they lived here for upwards of half a century. Her father died August 17, 1911, and the mother April 20, 1913. James Potter served as a soldier of the Civil war. In the Potter family were nine children, William, George, Lydia, Albert, Edgar, Laura, Clarence, Alvin and Bertha. Those now deceased are Lydia and Laura.

Mr. and Mrs. Dorscheid have three children, Bernice Marie, Raymond Charles and Leonard Michael.

**WILLIAM GAULKE.** Few citizens of Portage County have had more interesting experiences in life than William Gaulke, a prosperous farmer of Grant Township. Mr. Gaulke knew the Middle and far

West in its pioneer times, before transcontinental railways were constructed and when much of the Northwestern country was the scene of active Indian hostilities. He has been a resident of Portage County for over forty years and his affairs have been greatly prospered. He has reared a large family in this county and is now surrounded by his sons and daughters and numerous grandchildren.

He was born in Germany October 1, 1848. When he was fourteen weeks old his father died, and at the age of eleven years he was orphaned by the death of his mother. He grew up in his native country and had the advantages of the common schools there. In 1867, at the age of nineteen, with all the enthusiasm of youth and its daring and courage, he set out for the New World and soon afterward arrived in Milwaukee. His first American experience was working as a farm hand for two months. He then secured employment on one of the steamboats running on the Great Lakes, and this occupation furnished him an opportunity to learn the English language, which he readily acquired. Returning to Milwaukee, he soon took a job in the harvest fields of Illinois, and remained in that state about two years, working in the summer and attending school in winter.

At that time practically all the country west of the Mississippi was a wide open frontier and furnished every incentive to a youth with the spirit of adventure. Mr. Gaulke went out to Nebraska and took up a pre-emption, but never lived on the land. For a time he was located at Sioux City, Iowa. One of the most interesting experiences he had was a year he spent in the employ of the United States Government as a teamster. Much of the time he was employed in handling a six mule team. He did teaming between the Government reservations in the far Northwest and for a time was located at Fort Buford. While there he built a skiff and with four companions floated down the Missouri River to the present site of Bismarck, North Dakota. In that vicinity he and his companions established a little town known as Carlington. He remained there and was proprietor of the ferry. Nearby was Fort McKeen and later Fort Lincoln, where General Custer was stationed during some of the Indian wars. For two years Mr. Gaulke was a ferryman. He had a large boat forty-five feet long and he handled a large part of the traffic that crossed the Missouri River at that point.

Having satisfied himself with Western life and its adventures, Mr. Gaulke in 1872 returned to Wisconsin and for about three months worked in the pail factory owned by Mr. Rabling at Grand Rapids. In 1878 he bought his first land in Portage County. This was a part of the school section No. 16, township 22, range 7, east, Grant Township. Later he sold that land after improving it to his brother-in-law, Ludwik Henke, who is now deceased. His sister, Mrs. Henrietta Henke, is now living at Grand Rapids.

Mr. Gaulke next bought forty acres of his present estate in Grant Township, in section 17. As his affairs prospered he added more land and is now owner of 420 acres. One of the most valuable of his services was the development and improvement of half of this land, which when he bought it was absolutely wild and uncultivated. He cleared it of brush, broke it and planted crops, directed substantial buildings, and in addition to farming he also learned the carpenter's trade and has been employed in building many of the houses and barns of his vicinity. He is a general farmer and stock raiser and handles

a herd of graded Holstein cattle. In the early days he did all his farm work with ox teams. His first home was a small frame house and in 1803 he built the ample and commodious residence which he now occupies.

It is proverbial that the busiest man is always most ready and capable of assuming new responsibilities. Mr. Gaulke is no exception to that rule. He has found time to serve as township clerk nine years, as township chairman eleven years, and ever since 1880 he has been clerk of his school district. He helped organize this district, No. 3, and was employed to erect the schoolhouse. In 1903 he was appointed a drainage commissioner and has filled that office for fifteen consecutive years. Mr. Gaulke in politics was a republican.

In 1876 he married Miss Augusta Kruger, who was born in Germany in 1856. She was brought to Wisconsin by her parents, Godfrey and Frederika Kruger, who located in Grand Rapids Township of Wood County. Her father died there and her mother is now living, about ninety years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Gaulke had eight children and most of these children have grown to manhood and womanhood and the grandchildren now number almost a score.

Henry, the oldest, married Ella Smith, and their children are Minard, Emmett, Herbert, George, Lameine, Loretta and Marguerette. Of these Minard graduated from the Grand Rapids High School with the class of 1918. Mary, second of the family, is the wife of Emil Eberhard, of Grand Rapids Township, and their family consists of eight. Arvilla, Lester, Elmer, Urbin, Harold, Lorinda, John and Floyd. William, third in age, married Ella Winkler, of Plover Township, and their children are Lilah and Frank. Minnie married Charles Painter, of Grand Rapids, and they have one child, Charles. The younger children of Mr. and Mrs. Gaulke, all at home, are: Laura, Ella and John.

ADOLPH J. MASLOWSKI has become a well-to-do citizen of Portage County through his continued enterprise as a merchant custom tailor, a business which was founded by his father and has been continued successfully at Stevens Point for thirty years or more.

The family before coming to America had their home in Poland, where Adolph J. Maslowski was born October 25, 1877, son of John and Florence (Bozych) Maslowski. His parents are still living, his father at the age of sixty-eight. The paternal grandparents were Carl and Kudwika Maslowski, who came to Portage County and settled on a farm in Sharon Township, where the grandfather died. The widow is now living at Stevens Point with her son John, so that three generations of the family and four, counting the children of Adolph, are represented in this city.

John Maslowski brought his family to America in 1882 and settled at Stevens Point. He is a tailor by trade, and he established the business at Stevens Point which was later taken over by his son Adolph. John Maslowski still assists his son in the business. He and his wife are members of St. Peter's Catholic Church. Their children were: Paul and Peter, twins, who died young; Adolph, Joseph and August.

Adolph J. Maslowski was five years old when the family came to Portage County, and he grew up here, attending the parochial schools and later the public schools. At the age of sixteen he went to work

to serve a thorough apprenticeship at the tailor's trade. He has developed a high degree of technical skill and artistic taste in the business, and about fifteen years ago he succeeded to the business established by his father and has a well equipped shop and salesroom at 109½ N. E. Public Square.

Mr. Maslowski is a democratic voter and with his family is a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church. He resides at 519 Union Street. In 1903 he married Miss Catherine Pasternacki. Mrs. Maslowski was born in Stevens Point in 1881, daughter of Frank and Eva Pasternacki, well known citizens of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Maslowski have the following children: Carl, Grace, Theresa, Adolph, Romona, Harry and John. All are living except Harry.

**AUGUST LAWRENCE BISCHOFF.** Stevens Point numbers among its departed men of worth and stability the late August Lawrence Bischoff, who from 1882 until his death in 1904 was identified with a number of prominent business ventures and was a supporter of various movements of a progressive civic nature. Mr. Bischoff was born in Germany, in 1844, and was reared in that country, where he received a public school education and learned the trade of cabinet maker.

Mr. Bischoff was a young man of twenty-four years when he immigrated to the United States, his first permanent stopping-place being the little City of Cambria, Wisconsin. His capital upon his arrival was not large, but he was a master of a good trade, and was possessed of willingness, energy and ambition to make something of himself, qualities that impressed themselves favorably upon the people among whom he settled, so that he had no difficulty in securing profitable employment. He was also thrifty and industrious, and with a view to the future carefully saved his earnings, so that in 1874, when he came to Portage County, he was able to establish himself in business as the proprietor of a modest general store at Ellis in Sharon Township. During the eight years that he continued in business at that point Mr. Bischoff built up his trade to appreciable proportions, and when he disposed of his interests in 1882 to come to Stevens Point he was already on the high road to success. His subsequent operations in properties in this city were marked by accurate judgment and sound foresight, and his wise investments and cool-headed transactions soon placed him among the men of material substance in the city. He was engaged in building a handsome modern home at No. 316 North Division Street at the time of his death in 1904. Mr. Bischoff was a democrat in his political affiliation, and a devout member of the Catholic Church. He was held in confidence by his associates in the business world, and as a citizen left nothing to be desired in his loyalty and public spirit.

In 1870 Mr. Bischoff was married to Miss Helena Fuhring, who was born in Germany, December 27, 1851, a daughter of Conrad and Gertrude (Rashi) Fuhring. Mr. Fuhring was born in Amsterdam, Holland, in 1808, and his wife in 1811, and they were married in Germany, from which country they came in the spring of 1853 to the United States. Their first settlement was near Randolph, Wisconsin, where they bought a farm, in the operation of which Mr. Fuhring continued to be engaged until his death in 1889. In his native land he had been the owner of a mill, and when he came to America brought with him the proceeds of the sale thereof, some \$1,100, which was stolen

from him, so that he had to face life in the new land all over again. For a time he worked on the railroad from Harrigan to Portage, but subsequently was able to get a piece of land, and his later success testifies to his perseverance and determination in the land of his adoption. Mrs. Fuhring died in 1891, having been the mother of the following children: Margaret, who died at Los Angeles, California; Anton, who served during the Civil war as a member of Company E, Twenty-ninth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and is now a well known business man at Union City, Oklahoma, where he is proprietor of a hardware store; Berndetta, whose death occurred at New Orleans, Louisiana; Joseph, who was for some years in business at Union City, Oklahoma, and is now living in retirement there; and Helene, now Mrs. Bischoff.

Mr. and Mrs. Bischoff became the parents of nine children, as follows: Rose Gertrude, who is the wife of Hugo Quandt, and has two children, Viola Marie and Carl August, the latter of whom is a lieutenant in the United States Aviation Corps, ready for service in France; Joseph, D. D. S., who practiced his profession at Stevens Point for twenty years, until accepting a position with the United States Department of Justice with headquarters at New York City, married Gertrude Brown and has one child, John Lawrence; Marie, who is the wife of Carl Cadman and has five children, Helen, Hazel, Elizabeth, Ada and John; August Conrad, of Watertown, Wisconsin, a conductor on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, married Gertrude Diemal and has two children, August Clifford and Helen Dolores; Gertrude Catherine, who is the wife of Hugo Petzold, of Milwaukee, and has one child, Viola; Lawrence Philip, a veteran of the Spanish-American war and a lieutenant in the United States Navy, who is an instructor of engineering at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, married Ethel McNaughton, and has two children, Marjorie and John; Clarence Mathew, a caster in the Chicago Brass Foundry at Kenosha, Wisconsin; and two children, Clara and Magdalen, who died in infancy.

**CHRIST W. RICKMAN.** Fifty years of residence give the Rickman family a place of substantial importance in Grant Township. They have been industrious and capable farmers of this section and no inconsiderable part of the land now under cultivation there is the result of the long continued labors of the Rickmans at clearing and otherwise improving. Through this work, which he took up as a boy, Christ W. Rickman has developed one of the most complete farms in that township.

He was born in Germany August 21, 1861, and when he was eight years old, in 1869, his parents, John and Sophia (Timm) Rickman, brought their family to America and settled in Grant Township of Portage County. People of very modest circumstances they began with forty acres of land, and that tract is now part of the farm of their son Christ. As a family they cleared the forty acres, and the father lived there until his death in 1888, at the age of sixty-nine. The mother passed away in 1897, at the same age as her husband. John Rickman was a democrat in politics and for two years served as supervisor of Grant Township. He and his family were active members of the Lutheran Church. Sophia Timm was a sister of Joachim Timm, a well known Portage County citizen elsewhere referred to. John

Rickman and wife had five children, all of whom are still living, named Marv, Minnie, Christ W., John H. and Charles H.

Christ W. Rickman gained most of his education in the public schools of Grant Township. He worked at home and for several years he was also employed in the lumber woods and in the sawmills. After settling down to a career of farming he developed one tract of land after another, and now owns 440 acres, nearly all of which is in cultivation. His personal efforts have been responsible for the clearing up of fully 260 acres. As a farmer he handled much good stock, including high grade Holstein cattle with a thoroughbred bull at the head of the herd. His farm buildings are all substantial and modern in arrangement and facilities. One feature that stamps the farm as a progressive center of agricultural enterprise is a silo 12 by 26 feet.

Politically Mr. Rickman has been affiliated with the democratic party. He served as township clerk twenty years and for three years was chairman of the township board. For about fifteen years he has worked for the good of the local schools as a member of the school board.

In 1886 he married Miss Amelia Hanneman. She was born in Germany August 7, 1865, daughter of August and Augusta Hanneman. About 1869 the Hanneman family came to America and settled at Rudolph in Wood County, Wisconsin. Two years later they moved to Grand Rapids Township in the same county and her parents spent the rest of their days there. Mr. and Mrs. Rickman became the parents of twelve children: Minnie, Emma, William, George E., Edward and Eleanor, twins, Annie, Esther, John, who died in infancy, Mamie, Edna and Elmer. Minnie is the wife of Fred Goldberg, of Kellner, and their children are Mabel and Martin. Emma married Andrew Tinni, of Grant Township, and has a son, Gilbert. William married Louisa Dittman, of Shawano, and has a son, Victor. Edward married Rawata Radthke, daughter of Rev. Samuel Radthke, the Lutheran minister at Kellner.

GEORGE E. VAUGHN. A resident of Portage County all his life, George E. Vaughn's individual activities and interests strongly identify him with the county and its welfare. He has been connected with business at Stevens Point and is now one of the rural mail carriers out of that city.

The Vaughns are an old and pioneer family of this section of Wisconsin. He is a son of Audrae Otis and Elizabeth (Clement) Vaughn, both now deceased. His father was born in New York State and his mother in Vermont. Audrae Otis Vaughn came to Stevens Point about 1855. For many years he was in the woods and on the river as a factor in the lumber industry. He was a brother of B. L. Vaughn, another member of the family elsewhere referred to in this publication. Audrae Otis Vaughn was a Baptist and a charter member of the First Baptist Church of Stevens Point. In politics he voted as a republican. He and his wife had six children, George E. being the third in order of birth.

George E. Vaughn was born at Stevens Point July 3, 1865. He was educated in the public schools and as a boy went to work in the woods and on the river with his father and is one of the few men who have an intimate knowledge based on personal experience with the old days of the river and woods in Wisconsin. Later for a number

of years he was associated with his father in the sale of farm machinery. Mr. Vaughn has enjoyed the confidence and trust of his fellow citizens and is one of the honored ex-county officials of Portage County. For six years he was register of deeds and for one term was a member of the county board. Mr. Vaughn was one of the men responsible for organizing the wall paper factory at Stevens Point and was secretary of the business for 1½ years. For about a year he was a grocery merchant but gave that up on account of ill health, and for a time sold insurance, but in 1909 took as a wholesome outdoor occupation the position of rural mail carrier, and has carried mail over one of the routes radiating from Stevens Point for the past nine years.

Mr. Vaughn is a republican in politics, is affiliated with Evergreen Lodge No. 93 Free and Accepted Masons, and is a charter member of Eureka Camp No. 48 of the Modern Woodmen of America and also a charter member of the Stevens Point Lodge of Beavers.

He resides at 401 South Michigan Avenue, in a home which his father built many years ago and which has been remodeled and added to by its present owner. Mr. Vaughn married in 1868 Miss Jessie E. Martin, of Stevens Point, daughter of J. A. Martin, one of the early settlers here. Mrs. Vaughn died February 7, 1917, leaving one son, George Verne. This son was born December 22, 1900, and has made a splendid record in his school work, working up through all the grades of the State Normal at Stevens Point and is now a member of the senior class and also of the students army training corps, volunteering for army service October 1, 1918.

**VICTOR S. PRAIS.** The active career of Victor S. Prais has connected him closely with the business interests of Portage County. He has had a very active career and has followed different lines, always with such energy as to maintain him in the rank of successful men. He is now proprietor of one of the best equipped paint, wall paper, tent and awning stores in Portage County.

Mr. Prais was born in Poland December 26, 1879, a son of Joseph and Marie (Yunke) Prais. When he was not yet five years old the family started for America, and on November 3, 1884, arrived at Stevens Point. The father was both a shoemaker and a mason by trade, and followed those occupations in Stevens Point until his death in 1906, at the age of fifty-nine. His widow is still living, aged sixty-nine. The father was a democrat and the family communicants of St. Peter's Catholic Church. There were six children in the family: Klinens F.; Frances; Victor S.; Agnes, who died at the age of thirteen; Martha, wife of Roman Suplecki; and Johanna, wife of John Urbanowski, of Stevens Point. The oldest, Klinens F., born in 1873, was educated both in Poland and in Stevens Point parochial schools, and is a carpenter and paper hanger by trade. For the past eleven years he has assisted his brother Victor in the store. November 3, 1897, he married Marie Olbranz, who died in 1912, the mother of six children, Agnes, Joseph, Regena, Peter, Heron and Margaret. Frances Prais, the older sister of Victor, was educated at Stevens Point, and by her marriage to Paul Archerlick has five children, Carl, Paul, Martha, Roman and Cecelia.

Victor S. Prais during his boyhood at Stevens Point attended both the parochial and public schools. He early learned the trade of painter,

but afterwards took up another totally different line of employment, as cook and manager of boarding cars for the Wisconsin Central Railway. For four years he worked in a lunch room of the Wisconsin Central and he was the first man to run a boarding train at North Fond du Lac and also had charge of the erection of the railway lunch room at Fond du Lac. In the course of his experience in this business he was stationed with a supply train at New Richmond, Wisconsin, at the time of the historic cyclone which did so much damage in that locality.

During his work as a painter Mr. Prais built up an extensive contracting business, and often had as many as twenty-two men working for him. On June 25, 1906, he bought the wall paper and paint store of Ira Eldridge, and on the following day opened up business under his name at 509 Main Street. About six years later he moved his store next door to where the electric light office was, and then moved over still another number. These moves were made consequent upon the growth and development of his business, and he now has a large and well equipped storeroom, stocked with an ample supply of paint, wall paper, tents and awnings, and other kindred merchandise.

Mr. Prais for seven years owned a home on Phillips Street but on March 13, 1917, sold it to Mr. Black. In June of that year he started the building of his new home at No. 307 Tremont Street, and he moved into the completed and comfortable residence on the 14th of December. In politics Mr. Prais is an active democrat and is affiliated with St. Peter's Catholic Church. He married Miss Mary Wodarski, of Stevens Point. They have two children, Austin, born February 13, 1911, and Bernadine, born in June, 1914.

JOSEPH M. MARSHALL is vice president of Gross & Jacobs Company, hardware and coal, one of the largest business firms of Stevens Point and operating one of the principal supply centers of that city. Mr. Marshall is a native of Stevens Point and has earned his present business dignity and success by a long and consecutive service with the firm, beginning as an employee and gradually making himself an invaluable and indispensable part of the business organization.

Mr. Marshall was born at Stevens Point September 3, 1875, a son of James B. and Elizabeth (Skinner) Marshall. His parents were both natives of Scotland, his father born at Glasgow on January 13, 1842, and his mother in Edinburgh in 1844. They married in Scotland and in 1865 the father came to the United States and located at Stevens Point. Some of the most skillful and resourceful men in the lumber industry of early days were from Scotland, and one of these was James B. Marshall. He followed the river for a number of years, but later took up the painting trade and is still at that line of business. He lives at 302 Monroe Street. A republican in politics he has been honored with several local offices, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a member of the Presbyterian Church. His wife came to Portage County in 1866, bringing her three children, and she died here in 1882. She was the mother of eight sons and daughters: Mary, who died in 1880; James; Margaret; Jessie; Grace; John; Joseph; and Ethel.

Joseph M. Marshall was reared and educated at Stevens Point, attending the public schools here. As a youth he served his apprenticeship at the tinsmith's trade in Milwaukee, and on his return went





HERMAN H. HOFFMAN

Co. E, 7th Wisconsin Veteran Volunteers,  
Photo taken Feb. 1, 1865.



LESLIE L. HOFFMAN

Co. B, 139th Infantry, with American Expeditionary Forces  
in France, 1918-1919

to work for Gross & Jacobs Company, and remained steadily in their employ for fifteen years. In 1912 he acquired an interest in the business, and as vice president is one of the directing heads of the firm.

Mr. Marshall is a republican in politics, but has never aspired for any official place in his community. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is a veteran of the Spanish-American war, having enlisted in 1898 in Company A of the Second Wisconsin Volunteers at Marshfield. He was with his regiment until mustered out at the close of hostilities. The military record of the family contains another name, his nephew, Joseph A., son of Joseph's brother James. This nephew is now a first sergeant in Company E with a Montana Regiment and is already in service in France. The Marshall family are members of St. Stephen's Catholic Church. They reside in one of the comfortable homes of Stevens Point at 218 North Division Street. June 18, 1902, Mr. Marshall married Miss Elizabeth Krembs, daughter of William and Mary Krembs, of Stevens Point. They have three daughters, Ruth, Dorothy and Jeanette, all living.

HERMAN H. HOFFMAN, president of the Village of Amherst Junction, is a citizen of mature years, of wide experience, and has done much for himself and family and also for the community. He served as a good soldier during the rebellion, and after the war applied himself for many years industriously and with a fair measure of profit to the business of farming in Portage County. His home has been in this county for more than half a century.

Mr. Hoffman is a native of Prussia, Germany, where he was born April 1, 1844. His parents, John G. and Christina (Exner) Hoffman, were both natives of Prussia. In 1856, when Herman was twelve years of age, the family immigrated to America and first lived in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. In the fall of 1859 they moved to Amherst Township of Portage County, trading their old place in Jefferson County for new land in Portage County. This latter place was east of Nelsonville. John G. Hoffman lived there until his death on June 8, 1886. His wife died November 7, 1884, at the age of sixty-seven. They have four children: Herman H., Gustav A., Mary, and Ida, deceased. John G. Hoffman improved and developed a good farm of 160 acres in Portage County, cleared much of it himself, and in course of time replaced the old log buildings with substantial structures in the way of houses and barns, all of which were most creditable to his enterprise and long continued labors.

Herman H. Hoffman, as already indicated, was twelve years of age when brought to America by his parents. He had received most of his schooling in the old country, and he came to manhood with practically no knowledge of the English language except the ability to use some of the more common words in speech. He was twenty years old when October 20, 1864, he enlisted at LaCrosse, Wisconsin, in Company E of the Seventh Wisconsin Infantry. It was in the army that the need for an English education was forcibly brought home to him. He wanted to send some message home, and for that purpose sought out his most intimate comrade, asking him to write a letter. This comrade he discovered was unable to write and Mr. Hoffman realized that his deficiency was not only working a present hardship so far as communication with home and friends was con-

cerned, but the same might prove a permanent bar to his advancement in a business way. He therefore determined without loss of time to acquire a knowledge of the English language. Of course his early education in the German tongue served him to good purpose, and he began reading newspapers and books even without understanding what he read and practiced writing on every scrap of paper he could find about the camp. Thus he largely educated himself by self application and his war experience was really his principal school after coming to America. That in no wise prevented him from serving capably as a soldier. He was with his regiment on all duties until honorably discharged July 3, 1865. The captain of his company, William H. Gildersleeve, wrote on the back of his discharge a very complimentary note saying that Mr. Hoffman had been a most faithful soldier under all circumstances, and that on one occasion he had left the hospital at his own volition and joined the regiment on hearing that his comrades had received marching orders.

Immediately after his return from the war Mr. Hoffman returned to Portage County and bought 160 acres in Amherst Township. It was totally wild land and his own labors cleared and improved it. He was one of the leading farmers of the township until he retired to Amherst Junction in 1904. At his home in the village he now has 2½ lots of ground and combines some of the comforts and conveniences of the country with those of town.

On September 27, 1867, Mr. Hoffman married Miss Margaret Rothlander. She was born in Bavaria, Germany, September 20, 1849, daughter of Andrew and Magdeline (Weisensee) Rothlander. Her parents came from Bavaria in 1857, arriving at Amherst in the fall of that year, and locating in Stockton Township of Portage County, on a farm two miles southwest of Amherst Junction. Her father continued an active farmer in that community until his death on February 17, 1899, at the venerable age of eighty-three. Her mother died April 1, 1882, aged sixty-six. Mrs. Hoffman was one of only two children that grew up, her sister being Sophia. Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman have been married fully half a century. They became the parents of a large family of nine children: William Frederick, deceased; Henrietta, wife of Edwin P. Tobie, who is now farm manager of the Hoffman farm; Milo who died in infancy; Henry H., of Amherst Junction; Ada, wife of Bernard Waller, of New Hope Township, Portage County; Mary, wife of Chester Aldridge, of Amherst; Grant, deceased; Leslie, living at Wausau, Wisconsin; and Ruby, a resident of Amherst.

Mr. Hoffman has again and again been honored with positions of trust and responsibility, indicating the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens. He served as side supervisor of the township and also township chairman and was village supervisor before his election to his present office as village president. He has been a member of the Soldiers Relief Commission of Portage County since the commission was established and is now its chairman. In 1895 he represented Portage County in the State Legislature, and whether in the discharge of his responsibilities at the state capital or at home, has always shown that competence and honesty which are the prime prerequisites of efficient public service. He has always been an active republican, has been a member of the Grand Army Post since 1876 and is past commander of the post at Amherst, and is also a charter

member of Amherst Lodge, No. 274, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which was organized in October, 1877. He has served as president of the Stockton Fire Insurance Company of Portage County and is now president of the Old Settlers Club.

AUGUST KOSTKA is one of Stevens Point's live and energetic business men and merchants, and for nearly a quarter of a century the people of the city and surrounding country have appreciated his wares and his methods of doing business, and many of his best friends are his oldest customers.

Mr. Kostka was born in Poland July 27, 1852. His parents spent all their lives in Poland. He was educated and lived in his native country until twenty-three years of age. In 1875, coming to America, he followed his trade as carpenter for about five years in Chenango County, New York. In 1881 he located for a brief time at Milwaukee, and in December, 1882, arrived in Stevens Point, which place has been his home for over thirty-five years. He was employed in carpenter work and for about three years worked in the local shingle mills. In 1804 Mr. Kostka engaged in the grocery business, and has had three different locations. For four years he was where the Frank Pleet store now is and for seven years was in the location occupied by the Public Grocery. He moved to his present location, 113 N. E. Public Square, in June, 1905, and that is one of the most popular business points and landmarks in Stevens Point. He has a good business, carries a large and well selected stock, both staple and fancy groceries, and a large amount of stock food supplies. Besides his store he has a large warehouse for the storage of goods. Mr. Kostka lives at 125 Fifth Avenue. He is an independent voter and a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church. In 1882 he married Miss Toffie Wilch. She is also a native of Poland. To their marriage were born eleven children, Frank, who died in infancy; Anastasia, deceased; Elizabeth, who married Joseph Skiewerski, of Milwaukee, and has four children; John, who was drowned in Muskegon Lake in Michigan; August, who is employed in the store with his father; Rosa, at home; Robert, also assisting his father in business; Bronislawa and Toffie, both of whom also lend their youthful energies to the business; Edward, deceased; and Florence, still a student in the public schools.

JOSEPH KUCHNOWSKI. When Joseph Kuchnowski came to Portage County to enter upon a business career his available assets consisted of a very small amount of capital. He possessed determination and unlimited capacity for hard work, and these qualities have elevated him to a place among the substantial business men of Stevens Point, where he has been a prominent dealer in groceries and other food and feed products for many years.

Mr. Kuchnowski was born in Poland November 29, 1848, one of the twelve children of Joseph and Christina Kuchnowski. Of these children Joseph and two sisters alone are living.

Joseph Kuchnowski lived in his native land until 1872, when he immigrated to America and first located at Chicago. He found Chicago almost in ruins, as a result of the great fire of the preceding year. He was there only a few months and in 1873 came to Stevens Point. He went on to Minnesota for one year and on returning to Stevens Point made this his permanent home, except for six years

after his marriage, when he was in business at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, employed in a flour mill. In May, 1900, Mr. Kuchnowski returned to his native land to visit his parents. His father died in Poland in 1902 and his mother in 1903.

On January 24, 1882, Mr. Kuchnowski married Miss Katie Skilski, of Stevens Point. After their marriage they lived in Grand Rapids, but in 1888 returned to Stevens Point and in that year Mr. Kuchnowski engaged in the grocery, flour and feed business. He has had several partners. The first was his cousin, Martin Ketziszewski, and later he was in business with his brother-in-law, George Skilski, then with John Shippey, and his present active associate is his son-in-law, Julius Kulaszewicz. Mr. Kuchnowski is now sixty-nine years of age but is still active in business and his long experience as a successful merchant is largely responsible for the enviable position his house has long occupied in the esteem of this community. His business is at 213 Public Square.

Mr. Kuchnowski and family reside at 417 First Street. In politics he is a democrat and is a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church and of St. Peter's Society. He and his wife had five children: John, deceased, and one that died in infancy; Josephine; Mamie and Jennie.

BERTON S. FOX has spent practically all the years of an effective and useful lifetime in Portage County. All other activities have only been incidental to his main vocation as a successful farmer. His home for many years has been in Plover Township, and it constitutes a farm of modern improvements and under a highly efficient system of management.

Mr. Fox's father was a prominent and well known citizen of Portage County and some of Mr. Fox's children comprise a part of the life and enterprising younger element in the county's affairs today. Berton S. Fox was born in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, February 22, 1857, son of Sylvanus Lafayette and Charlotte S. (Abbott) Fox. His father was born at Hartford, Connecticut, in 1824 and his mother near Burlington, Vermont, January 14, 1822. They married in Vermont and soon afterward came westward and settled in the township of Hebron in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. They made their settlement there about 1848, the same year that Wisconsin was admitted to the Union. After ten years of residence in that locality they moved in 1858, when their son Berton was less than one year old, to Portage County, settling in the Village of Plover. Then in 1869 they moved to a farm of 120 acres in Plover Township and here Sylvanus L. Fox lived until his death in 1884. His widow survived him until 1900. Sylvanus Fox is remembered among other things on account of his service as a Union soldier. He enlisted in October, 1862, in Company G of the Twelfth Wisconsin Infantry. From that time until the close of the war he was with the armies fighting in the South and among other notable campaigns was with Sherman on the march to the sea. He was a war democrat in those days and always gave allegiance to that party. He was reared a Presbyterian and his wife was a member of the Free Will Baptist Church. Their children were: George B.; Lafayette S., deceased; Viliara; Viana; Berton S.; Layton T.; and Frank H.

Berton S. Fox grew up on his father's farm in Plover Township. He had a public school education as an additional equipment for life

and some of his youthful years were spent in the arduous life of the lumber woods. In 1888 he bought eighty acres in section 35 of Plover Township. That was thirty years ago, and at that time hardly an acre of land could be cultivated on account of the dense woods which covered the entire tract. The broad and well tilled fields and the numerous improvements that constitute the good farm now stand largely as individual credits to Mr. Fox's hard and continuous labors and good management.

Mr. Fox has been a good citizen and has never neglected his responsibilities. He served as supervisor two terms, as justice of the peace and constable, and in 1900 was enumerator for the census in his township. He held the post of patriotic responsibility as chairman for the prosecution of the Third Liberty Loan. Mr. Fox is a republican, a member of the Order of Beavers and Sons of Veterans, also the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and was formerly identified with the Good Templars.

In April, 1879, Mr. Fox married Miss Myrtle H. Frost, of Grant Township. Mrs. Fox was born in Pennsylvania in 1862, daughter of Warren J. and Julia A. (Adams) Frost. Her parents moved from Pennsylvania to Missouri and then came to Portage County, Wisconsin, where both of them died. Mrs. Myrtle Fox died in 1893, the mother of four children: Fred B., a successful Plover Township farmer mentioned elsewhere; Effie Myrtle, wife of George C. Roe and mother of one child, Mabel; Frank H., who lives in Seattle, Washington; and Donald F., who died at the age of four years.

On March 26, 1894, Mr. Fox married Mrs. Jennie Slack, widow of George W. Slack. Her first husband was killed by a snow slide while hunting in the State of Washington February 28, 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Slack had two children: Needham Ellsworth, deceased, and Robert Norman, who is a resident of Plover Township and at this writing is in a Chicago hospital with a broken leg.

Mrs. Fox's maiden name was Jennie Bailey. She was born in Plover Township October 2, 1872, daughter of Robert L. and Sarah (McGown) Bailey. Her father was born at Tiverton in Newport County, Rhode Island, in 1823, and her mother was born in 1844. Her father though well advanced in years made a gallant record as a soldier in the Civil war. He enlisted at Seneca Falls, New York, in 1861 in Company G of the Eighth New York Cavalry. He was in service with the Army of the Potomac for three years and among the more notable battles in which he engaged were those of Cedar Mountain, Antietam, South Mountain, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, and Brandy Station where he was wounded and made prisoner and was sent to Libby Prison at Richmond, being paroled twelve days later and exchanged at Annapolis, Maryland, on May 12, 1863. He rejoined his command in time to take part in the battle of Chancellorville and in 1864 was granted his honorable discharge at Rochester, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey brought their family to Wisconsin in 1876, locating on a farm in Plover Township, where he died in 1906. His wife passed away in January, 1904. Their children were: Edwin, who married Lillie Hawley, of Stevens Point, and has one child, Angie; Jennie, Mrs. Fox; and Eva A., deceased. Robert L. Bailey was an active member of Plover Post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. and Mrs. Fox became the parents of a large family of thirteen

children, named in order of age Donald Lafayette, Garrett Okay, Valara, Jennie, Ruth, Olin, Edith, Mamie, one that died in infancy, Layton, Fern Eva, Howard J. and Elizabeth Catherine. The fifth and eleventh in order of birth, Ruth and Fern Eva, are also deceased. The oldest, Donald L., on April 14, 1917, joined the United States Navy and is now on the battleship Wyoming. Garrett Okay, the second son, is also a soldier, being with the One Hundred Twentieth Field Artillery now in England, and was formerly a member of Troop I at Stevens Point. The third child, Valara, married Jacob C. Galloway, of Plover Township, and they have one daughter, Velma Blanche.

**RANSLEAR W. PARKS.** One of the names longest and most prominently identified with Portage County is that of Parks. As a family they came from New York State and the individual members have proved themselves masters of circumstances and have done much to improve the community while working for their own welfare.

Several of the names are well known to the people of Portage County. Mr. Ranslear W. Parks was born in Rockland, Sullivan County, New York, September 20, 1858, son of Silas T. and Wealthy (Ferdon) Parks. The family originated in Scotland. The great-grandfather was known as Boatsman Parks, who in pioneer times moved up the Delaware River into New York State. He lived out on the frontier and one time showed a very determined courage in handling a dangerous situation with some hostile Indians. Two red men planned an attack upon his home for the purpose of killing his children and himself and wife, but they were interrupted before they could put their plan into execution and Boatsman Parks shot one of his assailants and killed the other with an axe. The paternal grandparents of Mr. R. W. Parks were Moses and Sarah Parks, who spent all their lives in New York State. Moses Parks was a soldier in the War of 1812, while his grandfather had performed patriot service in the Revolution.

Silas T. Parks, father of Ranslear W., was born at Hancock in Delaware County, New York, March 30, 1831. He married at Rockland in Sullivan County Miss Wealthy Ferdon, who was born there May 15, 1841. After their marriage they remained in Sullivan County and from there in 1862 Silas Parks went away to the war as a Union soldier in Company F of the One Hundred Forty-fourth New York Infantry. He was with his regiment, fighting in many battles, until the close of the war.

In the meantime, in 1862, his wife and children, together with her parents and other members of the family, came out to Kossuth Township of Manitowoc County, Wisconsin. They lived there until Silas Parks returned from the army. Wealthy Ferdon was a daughter of William and Freelove (Davis) Ferdon, who also became identified with Portage County citizenship. Both were natives of New York State and after coming to Wisconsin they lived in several localities before coming into Portage County, where both of them died. Their children were: Mary; Sarah Jane; Hitabel and James, deceased; Samuel; Wealthy; John; Edward, who enlisted and went away to the Civil war at the age of sixteen and died while in Andersonville prison; Emily; Annis; William Albert; and Lot.

When Silas Parks rejoined his family in Wisconsin at the close of the war he moved to Brillion in Calumet County, Wisconsin, was

there two years, spent another two years at Wild Rose in Warshara County, and then came to Linwood Township of Portage County, acquiring a tract of land where Mr. Henry Clark now lives. The family moved to that place in 1871, but on May 4, 1893, Silas Parks brought his family to Plover Township and settled on the farm of 120 acres where Edwin Parks now lives. This is the home where Silas Parks died in 1903 and his wife in 1901. He was a republican in politics and a member of the United Brethren Church. He and his wife had six children: Sarah Jane, deceased; Ranslear W.; Alfred L.; Emma A.; Sidney W. and David W.

Ranslear W. Parks was about four years old when his mother brought him to Wisconsin. Even at that early age he had been introduced to the routine of a common school in his native state, and most of his education was acquired in Portage County at an old school on Mill Creek in Linwood Township. While farming has constituted his major activities, he spent a number of years on the river and in the lumber woods. He bought land at the location where he now lives in section 25 of Plover Township in 1885. His first purchase was eighty acres, and later he added forty acres more. In 1918 he disposed of thirty-six acres, leaving him a comfortable estate to manage. When he went to that farm only four acres had been cleared and the big work of clearing the rest of it and putting it in cultivation is perhaps his chief contribution to the present agricultural resources of the county. He also erected good buildings and now has a general farm and has it well stocked with good cattle, horses and hogs. Mr. Parks has always borne an honorable and useful part in the community, served six years as side supervisor, and also school treasurer several terms. His father was for many years identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

On December 25, 1879, Mr. R. W. Parks married Miss Ada M. Clussman. Mrs. Parks was born in Linwood Township May 15, 1860, daughter of Edward and Anne M. (Hoyt) Clussman. Her father was born in Illinois in 1826 and her mother at Rockford, Sullivan County, New York, in 1833. Edward Clussman and wife married in New York State, and in the early '50s came to Portage County as pioneers. He served as county clerk when the county seat was at Plover and died while still in that office in 1865. Edward Clussman's first place of settlement in Portage County was at Cronant Rapids in Linwood Township. He worked there in the woods and was also a riverman on the Wisconsin River. When the war came on he enlisted in the Union army but after a brief service was discharged on account of ill health. He also owned and operated a ferry near Plover, purchasing that property from Joseph Seamons. After the death of Edward Clussman, his widow, mother of Mrs. Parks, married Joseph Seamons. A son of Joseph Seamons is Oscar Seamons, whose name is mentioned on other pages of this work. Joseph Seamons by his marriage to Mrs. Clussman had one daughter, Josephine. Josephine was born in Plover Township in 1870 and married Eugene Clendenning. Mr. Clendenning was born in New York State in 1863, son of Eugene and Ann Clendenning, who came to Plover Township from New York about 1883 and both died in Plover Village. Eugene Clendenning, Jr., is a mason by trade and he and his wife now live at Meehan Station in Plover Township. Mrs. Clen-



denning formerly owned a farm there, but it is now the property of her son Arthur Clendenning. Mrs. Clendenning was for some years engaged in the mercantile business at Meehan Station but later sold the store. Her son Orin Clendenning, who was born in Plover Township January 31, 1889, now owns a farm of eighty acres near Meehan Station, having bought it in 1906. Orin Clendenning married in 1911 Susie Wolf, and they have four children.

Mrs. Parks' mother died January 4, 1901. Mrs. Parks was the youngest of the three children of her father and mother. The oldest, Mary, is the wife of Henry Fowler. Her only brother, William Clussman, was born in Linwood Township February 22, 1857, spent a number of years in his early life as workman in sawmills and at log driving, and made a number of trips down the rivers as far as St. Louis. He is now a farmer of seventy acres in Plover Township, and has made a place notable for its excellent improvements. As a republican he has served as clerk and treasurer of the school board. February 21, 1883, William Clussman married Jennie Edwards, of Portage County, and they have eight children, named Edward, Walter, Bertha, Clinton, Charles, Nettie, Grace and Everett. Of these children Bertha died at the age of fifteen years.

Mr. and Mrs. Parks have every reason to be proud of their family, numbering five children. Myrtle A. is the wife of Aaron L. Smith, of California, and they have five children, Zella, Eula, Alvin L., Ranslear J. and Merrill. The Smith family are distinguished by practically all the children being most competent and skillful players of the violin. Edwin R. Parks, second child of Mr. and Mrs. Parks, now occupies the farm which his grandfather settled upon. He married Rose Mathewson, and their children are Edith, Cecil, Derrell, Orville, Etta and Rubie. Of the third child of Mr. Parks, Dennis H., a more detailed sketch is presented on other pages. Edna is the wife of Fred Fox, and their four children are Leslie; Wilbur, deceased; Kenneth; and Ada May. Addie, the youngest of the family, is the wife of Warren Beadle, of Biron, Wisconsin. They have one child, Eudora.

**PATRICK COLLINS.** From the time of his arrival at Stevens Point in 1868 until his retirement in 1902, the late Patrick Collins conducted a blacksmithing and wagon-making business, and during this period impressed himself upon the people of this community as a reliable man of business and a sound and substantial citizen. It is to such men that Portage County owes its rapid advancement and the wonderful development of its business enterprises—men who watch for opportunity, utilize it when it comes and while promoting individual success also promote the general welfare.

Mr. Collins was born on Prince Edward Island, March 7, 1833, a son of William and Honora (Buckley) Collins, natives of Ireland, where they were married. Not long after their union they went to Prince Edward Island, and subsequently came to the United States, where their first place of residence was Boston, Massachusetts. From the East they came to Portage County, Wisconsin, Mr. Collins passing away at Portage City, while his widow died in Iowa. They were the parents of eight sons and four daughters, of whom only one child is now living, Cornelius, a resident of San Antonio, Texas.

Patrick Collins attended the public schools of Prince Edward

Island and Boston, and was still a youth when he accompanied his parents to Portage City. In 1851 he went to Watertown, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, where he learned the trade of blacksmith and remained there, working for others, for seven years. In 1858 he located at Portage City and embarked in blacksmithing in partnership with his brother, James Collins, and prior to the outbreak of the Civil war began work for the United States Government at Fort Smith, Arkansas, being located at that point when hostilities between the North and the South commenced. He returned then to Portage City, but in 1862 again started to work for the Federal Government, this time at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. After a short time he was transferred to Fort Riley, Kansas, and soon went to Fort Scott, Kansas, where he remained 1½ years in the Government shop. He also spent some time at Fort Gibson, as a wagonmaker for the Government, but in the latter part of 1863 returned to Portage City, and in 1864 came to Stevens Point, where he engaged in business as a blacksmith and wagon-maker in partnership with another one of his brothers, William Collins. This association continued for about four years, when the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Collins entered upon a career of his own. During the next thirty-four years he built up a splendid business, his excellent workmanship, reliability and straightforward dealing attracting customers who remained as patrons for many years. Having through industry, strict attention to business and good management accumulated a satisfying competence, in 1902 he retired from active labors and until his death, in 1906, lived quietly at his Stevens Point home, enjoying the comforts of life that can be gained only through right living, and surrounded by his children. Mr. Collins left behind him at his death a wide circle of business and social acquaintances who had been drawn to him and held by bonds of friendship, his many sturdy and sterling qualities of mind and heart having impressed themselves forcibly upon those with whom he came into contact. He voted with the democratic party, but did not aspire to office, being contented to exert his activities in the line of business. He was a good citizen, taking interest in the enterprises which promised to benefit his city and lending his support and co-operation in a material way to worthy movements. He was a devout member of the Catholic Church and one of the charter members of the local Catholic Knights.

Mr. Collins was married June 24, 1868, to Miss Elizabeth McGuire, who was born at Wilmington, Delaware, March 27, 1851, a daughter and Dennis and Margaret (Kelly) McGuire.

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Collins became the parents of the following children: William F., a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, in law, who is now cashier of the Arnot State Bank at Arnot, Wisconsin, married Mary Ghoca and has two children, Elizabeth and Margaret; John Henry, who died in infancy; Mary, a graduate of the high school and of the state normal at Stevens Point, who is now a popular school teacher of the Second Ward; Elizabeth Anna, a graduate of the high school, who taught at Stevens Point for several years, died October 22, 1916, as the wife of Andrew Wood, of Glidden, Wisconsin, a captain in the United States Engineering Corps; Gretta, who died in infancy; Margaretta, a graduate of the high and state normal schools, who up to the time of her death in 1903

was a teacher in the local schools; John D., a graduate of the high school and the Stevens Point Business College, who was located at Bartlesville, Oklahoma, when suddenly taken ill, returned to his home and died at Stevens Point in 1912; Clare L., a graduate of the high and state normal schools and now a teacher at Stevens Point; and Ada, who died in infancy.

At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Collins started house-keeping at No. 217 South Third Street, where all of their children were born. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Collins has erected a modern residence on the same ground, and here she makes her home, surrounded by the many friends who have come to know her during her long residence in this locality.

E. O. JEVNE. During a period of more than a half a century E. O. Jevne has been a resident of Eastern Portage County, and in this time has been principally engaged in farming, his home acres now being located in New Hope Township. Mr. Jevne is another one of the sturdy citizens given to this country by Norway who have proved invaluable factors in the development of large territories formerly useless because of lack of cultivation.

E. O. Jevne was born in Norway June 6, 1843, and is a son of Ole and Martha (Erickson) Jevne. His father was boss in a saw-mill in his native land, and in 1867 came to the United States to live with his son, who had preceded him two years, the parents both passing the remainder of their lives in Portage County. They were the parents of seven children, of whom three survive: Olavus, who for a long period was connected with the police department at Christiania, Norway, and now living retired at that place; E. O.; and Peter, a resident of Barron County, Wisconsin.

The education of E. O. Jevne was secured in the public schools of his native land, and in his youth had learned saw mill work with his father, so that he was partly prepared with a trade when he decided that he could better his fortunes if he came to America. This was in 1865, when he was but a little beyond his majority, and he came directly to New Hope Township in Portage County, where he joined an uncle, John Reton. He had no trouble in securing employment in the sawmills of this region, and being also strong and willing, found employment in the lumber woods and on the farms, so that he kept well occupied and was able to put aside some money. By the year 1867 he had accumulated sufficient capital with which to make his first payment on a partly-cleared farm located in New Hope Township, but on the Waupaca County line, a little east of Peru. In that year he sent for his parents, who joined him, and who continued to make their home here for the rest of their lives. Mr. Jevne in the years that have followed has completed the clearing and development of his property and now has 120 acres in the home tract and forty acres in Waupaca County. All the buildings which now grace and make attractive the homestead were erected by him, and the various other improvements also indicate his good management and hard work. For some years Mr. Jevne made a success of raising Shorthorn cattle, but of more recent years has devoted himself almost entirely to general farming. He has always maintained a reputation for sound integrity and good business sense, and as a citizen

concerned in his community's welfare has been a generous supporter of public-spirited movements. Mr. Jevne has done his share in the way of public service, having acted for several years as township supervisor and for ten or twelve years in the capacity of school director.

E. O. Jevne was married in 1880 to Miss Carrie Larson, who was born in Norway, daughter of Lars Larson, a sketch of whose career will be found in the review of Lewis Larson, elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Jevne died many years ago, having been the mother of the following children: Oscar, who is deceased, and Minnie, Ida, Clara, Julia and Severin, the last named being also deceased.

GUNDER O. WEMME, of Amherst Junction, was one of the first pioneers of Portage County. For a long period of years he followed actively his mechanical trade and also developed a good farm in New Hope Township.

He was born in Norway June 19, 1829, son of Ole K. and Ingeborg (Gunderson) Wemme. His father was born in 1789 and his mother in 1787. The father was twice married and by the first marriage had two children, Arcold and Knute, both of whom remained in Norway. Ingeborg Wemme died in Norway in 1852, leaving four children, two sons and two daughters. Ole, the oldest, subsequently became a farmer in Bosque County, Texas, and married Antoinette Mortenson and had eight children. Gunborg, the second child, married Jerrold Grimland, a farmer in Portage County, and they have nine children. Anna married John Gunderson, and they live as farmers in Waupaca County and had a family of five children.

Gunder O. Wemme during his boyhood had a very limited education. But it gave him a knowledge of reading, and that was the door through which he acquired a generous contact with the wealth of books, while practical experience brought him into close touch with affairs and men. He was a young man of twenty-four when in May, 1853, accompanied by his father and his sister Anna, he took passage on a sailing vessel, the Brothers, at Arndal, Norway, and after a voyage of nine weeks and two days landed at St. John, New Brunswick. There was no money to complete the journey to their supposed destination, and the father and son went to work in New Brunswick, while the sister went on west with friends. After accumulating a few dollars they started for Weyauwega, Waupaca County, Wisconsin, where they arrived August 22, 1853. The father of Gunder died August 12, 1867.

The day following his arrival at Weyauwega Gunder Wemme found work as a deck hand on the Badger State, the first steamboat plying on the Wolf River. His wages were sixteen dollars a month, but at the end of two weeks he was promoted to pilot, the regular pilot being ill. In this position his wages were twenty-five dollars a month. At the close of the season he went to Stevens Point, and worked there until the following spring at anything that turned up. He then went into the lumber woods at Pine River, and spent a number of months in the hard labor of lumbering. In the spring of 1855 he returned to Stevens Point and learned the mason's trade. The first season he was paid a dollar a day, but the following year had wages of two dollars a day. While in the pineries he had preempted

160 acres of land in section 29 of New Hope Township, Portage County. That subsequently became the basis and scene of his long continued activity as a farmer. In the fall of 1855 he built a log house, a structure which was subsequently used as the kitchen of his more commodious home. After his marriage he took up his residence on the farm, added more land to it, and while supervising its clearing and cropping also continued his work at the mason's trade and was one of the most skillful workmen in that line in the county. In the early days of his residence on the farm he had to walk to Stevens Point or Waupaca for provisions, carrying them home on his back.

December 13, 1856, he married Miss Bertha Helena Johannesson Rambeck. Rev. Mr. Duse, of Scandinavia, performed the wedding ceremony. Mrs. Wemme was born in Norway May 2, 1838, daughter of Johannes Hanson and Maria (Nelson) Rambeck. Her parents were both natives of Norway, the father born September 28, 1812, and the mother August 10, 1802. They both died in Portage County, her father on September 28, 1880, and the mother on September 8, 1891. Mrs. Wemme left Kristiania, Norway, with her parents and three brothers on May 2, 1853, on board the William Tell, which sailed for Quebec. It landed its passengers there six weeks and three days later. The family then proceeded directly to Rock River, Wisconsin, where her father rented a farm, Mrs. Wemme in the meantime working as a domestic six weeks in Milwaukee. A little later the family moved to New Hope Township of Portage County, making the journey in a wagon drawn by oxen. There her father bought 160 acres in section 12, erected a log house upon it, and after ten years deeded that property to his sons and bought a forty acre farm, where he erected a home and where he lived until 1872, when he and his wife came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wemme. Mrs. Wemme's mother by a previous marriage had a son Hans, who died in Hamlin County, South Dakota, January 16, 1888. One of Mrs. Wemme's brothers was Olaf, who became a farmer in New Hope Township and married Miranda Larson. Her brother Johan was a private in Company I, Fifteenth Wisconsin Infantry, and was wounded at the battle of Missionary Ridge. He afterwards married Bertha Johnson and went out to California, where he died leaving considerable property.

Besides his substantial position as a farmer and citizen of Portage County, Gunder Wemme acquired other interests. In 1885 he visited some of his children in Dakota Territory, and in 1891 he bought 160 acres of wild land in Hamlin County of South Dakota. In New Hope Township he filled various offices at the call of his fellow citizens, was school director several years, clerk and treasurer, township chairman fourteen consecutive years, and many times served as supervisor. He also became president of the Home Insurance Company. He and his family were active members of the United Norwegian Lutheran Church. In politics he was a strong republican.

The record of the children of these worthy pioneers is briefly stated as follows: Ole, the oldest, was born August 8, 1857, and died August 20, 1857; Emma Matilde, born December 3, 1858, married June 26, 1883, Albert Engom and went out to a farm in Hamlin County, South Dakota; Josine Louise, born March 27, 1861, mar-

ried April 8, 1880, Gunder Olson, and they also became residents of South Dakota; Oscar Martin, born February 5, 1863, died February 15, 1880; Clara Julia, born March 18, 1865, married December 19, 1883. C. L. Olson, a farmer of Portage County; Johan Nicolai, born June 19, 1867, died March 8, 1878; Gustave Halbert, born October 7, 1869, died February 25, 1878; Henry Anton, who spells his family name Wimme, is a successful and enterprising merchant at Nelsonville, and reference to his career will be found on other pages. Hannah Bertine, born December 14, 1874, Othilda Emelia, born February 20, 1877, and Johan Halbert, born September 17, 1879, were the three younger children.

JOHN W. VAUGHAN represents one of the earliest pioneer families of Portage County. He was born at Jordan in Hull Township June 12, 1861, a son of Anselm and Rosette (Bedell) Vaughan. His parents were both born at Plattsburg, New York, his father August 23, 1823, and his mother September 21, 1822. They married at Saranac, New York, February 25, 1844, and about 1846 came west and settled in the Territory of Wisconsin in Rock County, subsequently moving to Sauk County, and in 1856 founding a pioneer home within the limits of Portage County. They located at Jordan, where Anselm Vaughan served as village blacksmith for many years. He also operated a feed mill and was a man of consequence in that locality until his death, which occurred in 1893. His widow is still living at the venerable age of ninety-six. In December, 1901, she removed her home to Stevens Point, but after five years went back to Jordan, and in April, 1916, returned to Stevens Point, where she is still living. Anselm Vaughan was a republican but never sought official honors. He and his wife have been lifelong members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. During his life he was very active in church affairs, was class leader and otherwise did much to uphold the spiritual influences in his community. Anselm Vaughan and wife had five children. The oldest, Henry C., was born in 1846 and died at the age of three months. Eleazer, the second in age, was born in 1847 and died in 1903 at Antigo, Wisconsin. He married Helen Gould, daughter of Albert Gould of Portage County, Wisconsin, and they were the parents of four children: Albert, who married Alta Baird of Antigo and now lives in Los Angeles, California; Walter, of Antigo; Eugene, who lives at Antigo and by his marriage to Grace Stewart had children named Cecil, Virginia and Helen, the last dying in infancy; and Gerald, who died at the age of five years. Henry B., the third child, was born in 1850 and died in 1853. Ransom B. Vaughan, of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, the fourth in age, was born in 1852 and married Etta Balch, daughter of Ezra Balch, one of the pioneers of Hull Township in Portage County. Ransom Vaughan and wife have two children: Clarence E., of Kansas City, Missouri; and Inez Smith, of Manchester, New Hampshire.

John W. Vaughan, the youngest of the children, was educated in the public schools of Portage County, attended business college at Madison, and in early life began the employment which has made him a competent engineer and electrician. For fifteen years he was connected with the Stevens Point Lighting Company. He also spent four years as an engineer with the granite works at Barre, Vermont. Mr. Vaughan is a republican, and for a number of years has been active

in promoting temperance work. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

July 2, 1890, Mr. Vaughan married Miss Nellie Worby. Mrs. Vaughan was born in Waupaca County, at Iola, May 13, 1868, daughter of Joseph H. and Ann Janette (Whitaker) Worby. Her father was born in Buckingham, England, October 9, 1836, and her mother in Jefferson County, New York, February 29, 1840. Her father died at Tula Rosa, New Mexico, July 8, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Worby were married in Portage County, Wisconsin, on October 9, 1866, more than half a century ago, and after their marriage they settled in Iola, Waupaca County, where Mr. Worby conducted a blacksmith shop several years. In 1861 he entered the Union army as a member of the Eighth Wisconsin Light Artillery and was through the entire war, serving in many battles, including the great struggles of Stone River, Chickamauga and elsewhere. He was wounded at Stone River. He and his wife were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Vaughan was the oldest of seven children. The second, Nettie May, married J. L. Smith, formerly a resident of Stevens Point, now living at Pennellville, New York. Marettie A. is the wife of R. B. Taylor, formerly of Iola, Wisconsin, but now of Lake Stevens, Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have the following children: William, Edgar, Bessie, Marjorie, Walter, Spencer, Everett, Marie, and Russell, three of whom are deceased, Bessie, Marjorie and Walter. Eleazer Worby is a resident of Waupaca, Wisconsin, and by his marriage to Jessie Reed has four children, Elsie, Edris, Earl and Charles. Charles Elmer Worby is a resident of Shawano, Wisconsin, and married Catherine Rushe and has four children, Lee, Shirley, Gordon and Janette. Mabel married John Larsen and has seven children, Gerald, Sfa, Janette, Carl, Menerva, DeElda and Grace. Florence is the wife of Lester Smith, formerly of Clintonville, Waupaca County, but now living in New York State. They have four children, Carrol, Shirley, Kenneth and Willard.

TRUMAN RICE. The twentieth century will be notable in the history of the world on account of many things, and without doubt one of these will be the abolition of alcohol as a beverage. No state or nation prohibitive law, however, was ever needed by Truman Rice, who is an honored and esteemed resident of Stevens Point and a living example of the worth of a temperate life. He chose that path in boyhood and today, although his appearance belies the date, is approaching his ninety-fourth birthday and with clear eye, active mentality and young-man physical vigor. He came of sturdy stock and of a long-lived family, but even then, as a pioneer farmer in Wisconsin and as a veteran soldier in the Civil war, opportunity was not lacking for a breakdown in health and a period of feebleness in advanced age. Nothing of the kind has happened, except during some months of starvation when a prisoner of war, and to nothing does Mr. Rice attribute his undiminished powers more than to his total abstinence from alcohol, tobacco and even tea and coffee, and he thinks it has been well worth while when, so near to the century mark, as far as steady nerves are demanded the Government could once more call for his services and find a fearless soldier.

Truman Rice was born January 6, 1825, in Elizabeth Township, Essex County, New York. His parents were Truman and Lois

(Hoten) Rice. They came to Bonors Prairie, Illinois, where they stopped a short time, and then came to Plover, Wisconsin, in 1856, and the father died at Watertown, but the mother lived to be eighty-six years old and died at McDill, in Portage County. They had the following children: Lorenzo, who lived to the age of seventy-five years and died in Nebraska; Philander C., who went to California in 1849 and later to Wisconsin and died at Lake Geneva when aged eighty years; Benoa, who was ninety-six years old when he died at McDill, Wisconsin; Harrison, who became lost to the family after leaving New York; Daniel, who died at Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, in his eightieth year; Orsen, who died in Iowa, aged eighty years; Sarah, who died in her eightieth year at Plainfield, Wisconsin; and Truman.

When his parents came to Wisconsin as pioneer settlers, Truman Rice went to Franklin County, New York, and lived in Malone Township until he was twenty years old, from there going to Potsdam in St. Lawrence County, where he worked at the carpenter trade until he made up his mind to come to Wisconsin. In the meanwhile he had married and on April 29, 1856, with his family, started for Wisconsin and on June 20, 1856, reached Plover in Portage County. He bought a farm in that neighborhood and conducted it for seven years, although in the meantime, when Civil war was declared in 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Eighteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. At the battle of Shiloh he was taken prisoner and was transported to Corinth, then to Memphis and afterward to Tuscaloosa, during this period suffering harsh treatment and when finally exchanged was so weak that he was placed in a hospital in St. Louis, Missouri. He weighed ninety pounds when he reached home and he was honorably discharged September 18, 1862. On February 29, 1864, Mr. Rice re-enlisted entering Company B, Eighteenth Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, and served until August, 1865, when he was a second time honorably discharged, after performing a patriotic duty, at Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin.

The second farm that Mr. Rice bought in Portage County was located east of McDill, later removing to another place in McDill he kept a hotel and a grocery store there for several years. The grocery store he later traded for a house on Clark Street, Stevens Point, and for sixteen years conducted a hotel at McDill. About 1901 Mr. Rice came to Stevens Point, where he owns several pieces of valuable improved property and has a comfortable appearing residence at No. 913 South Division Street. Mr. Rice takes pleasure in the fact that circumstances have never compelled him to live on rented property, he has always been able to buy his farms and houses and to have a feeling of independence about them.

At Potsdam, New York, in 1847, Mr. Rice was married to Sarah Ann Gilmore, who died July 16, 1892, at the age of sixty-six years, and they had four children, namely: Mary E., who is the widow of William H. Hulbut, resides at 536 Fremont Street, Stevens Point, and has one son, Charles; Florence, who died at St. Joseph, Missouri; Henry O., who lives at Harrison Valley, Potter County, Pennsylvania, married Clara Hulbut and they have one son and a daughter living, Lester and Florence, and a son, Harry, who died; and Sumner Lincoln, who died at Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Rice was married second to Mrs. Maria Brown, who died at Stevens Point. In 1900



Mr. Rice was married to Mrs. Excey Dunn, who was the widow of Lyman Dunn, a well known resident of this city, who died in 1893 and was buried at Neenah, Wisconsin. Mrs. Rice is a most estimable lady and belongs to one of the old county families by the name of Vaughn.

Mr. Rice has been a member of the Baptist Church since he was seventeen years old and was baptized July 4, 1842. For thirty-seven years he has been a member of Plover Lodge, Odd Fellows, and still lives up to the obligations he took upon himself when he joined it. To visit with Mr. Rice in his little shop where, to keep employed as he feels the need of exercise, he sharpens every kind of tool, is a real privilege, for his life has covered such a long interval and his quick intelligence has marked so many interesting events that he can recall in an interesting way. It is no unusual sight to his fellow citizens to have him speed by them on his bicycle or to take part in exercises that usually are difficult or embarrassing for men of half his years. He is so generally esteemed that his is always the place of honor when Stevens Point celebrates a national holiday.

EINAR L. LEPPEN. Portage County is somewhat noted as the home of a number of prosperous business enterprises, and a number of these have been organized and now are officered by men of Norwegian birth. One of the important business concerns, in which the dairy farmers all over this section of the county are vitally interested, is the Nelsonville Creamery, of which company Einar L. Leppen, one of Amherst Township's most thrifty citizens, a native of Norway, is president.

Einar L. Leppen was born July 17, 1873. His parents, who still live in Norway, are Lars L. and Gurene (Einar'datter) Leppen. The father is a farmer and also a shoemaker. His first marriage was to Martha Maria Gordon, who was a sister of Lars E. Gordon, a well known citizen of Nelsonville. Mrs. Leppen died in Norway after the birth of one son, Lars L. Leppen, Jr. The latter came to the United States in 1882 and for a time lived at Nelsonville in Portage County, moving then to Waupaca County, and he is now a prosperous farmer of Scandinaavia Township. Lars L. Leppen, Jr., married Ida Twetan in 1895, and to them were born four children, Lilly, Mabel, Irvine and Leonard. The second marriage of Lars L. Leppen, Sr., was to Gurene Einarsdatter, and the following children were born to them: Einar L., Andres, Marie, Ingeborg, Hans and Olavus. Only two of the family came to the United States, Einar L. and Marie, the latter being a resident of Milwaukee.

In 1893, when twenty years old, Einar L. Leppen came to Wisconsin and immediately found work in the lumber regions and in a sawmill at Merrill in Lincoln County. In the following year he came to Portage County and this has been his home ever since. Although he attended school in his native land Mr. Leppen was not satisfied with the education he had acquired when compared with American standards, but he determined to first thoroughly master the new language and farther than that his ambition led him to take and successfully pass the examinations in what was called the junior course in the Minneapolis Normal School and Business College. Not every young man would have persevered as did Mr. Leppen, for it meant much self denial and economy on his part, both at the Minneapolis School and later at the Stevens Point Normal School, where he again

went through the junior course. All this time he was providing his own capital, working in the woods or for farmers in the summer time. This quality of persistency and determination has marked Mr. Leppen's subsequent course, making him a thorough farmer, an earnest citizen and a far-sighted business man.

Mr. Leppen was married December 30, 1903, to Miss Ida M. Waller, who was born in Portage County and is a daughter of Abraham Waller. Mr. and Mrs. Leppen have a fine, intelligent family of sons and daughters, named as follows: Alice, Lydia, Elmer, Ernest, Walter, Howard and Sidney. Mr. and Mrs. Leppen are members of the Lutheran Church at Nelsonville.

When Mr. Leppen decided to embark in farming for himself he rented land for five years in New Hope Township and then bought his present home farm, which contains 150 acres and is well situated land lying in Amherst Township. Since then Mr. Leppen has lived on his farm, with the exception of three years, 1913-14-15, when he rented the L. L. Loberg farm near Nelsonville. His own farm is located a little east of Nelsonville and is a valuable property. Through his good management this land is very productive and a number of substantial improvements are annually adding to its cash value. He breeds Guernsey cattle.

Mr. Leppen as a good citizen has taken some interest in political matters and while residing in New Hope Township was appointed township clerk. He was one of the organizers of the Portage and Waupaca County Guernsey Breeders' Association and since it was founded has been a member and also is president of the Nelsonville Creamery Company. He is well known over the county and is held in high esteem as an honest upright man, a supporter of schools and church, and one who is ever ready to assist in furthering the agricultural development of this section by encouraging the breeding of high grade and pure bred stock and the use of scientific discoveries in caring for the soil.

**CHARLES E. EMMONS.** One of the representative business firms at Stevens Point is that of C. E. Emmons & Son, grocers and meat men, located at No. 1001 Dawson Street. The business was founded in 1902 by the senior partner, Charles E. Emmons, and was enlarged when the junior, Myron Emmons, became a partner. It has always been conducted along honorable lines and no firm in the city enjoys greater confidence.

Charles E. Emmons was born August 4, 1862, at Red Wing, Minnesota. His parents were Richard and Amanda (Frederick) Emmons, names well known in pioneer days in Dane County. The paternal grandfather was Norton Emmons, who died in Dane County, in 1892. He came to Wisconsin at a very early day and was well known as an early stock buyer in Dane County, developing a line of business that has since become of great importance. The maternal grandparents of Charles E. Emmons were John and Joanna Frederick, who also came to Dane County as pioneers and were among the hard-working, hopeful early settlers who paved the way for easier lives for their descendants. Both died in Dane County.

Richard Emmons was reared in Dane County and as his father was a buyer of stock, he early came also into that line of business and afterward for some years worked in the Chicago Stock Yards.

At a later date, after his marriage, he engaged in a hotel business at Red Wing, Minnesota, at Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, and at other points. He was a man of sturdy character and was highly respected for he was known to be honest and upright in all his dealings. Both he and wife died in Dane County.

Charles E. Emmons has spent the greater part of his life in Wisconsin. He attended the public schools at Oregon in Dane County, until he was fifteen years old, when he came to Stevens Point. Here he entered the employ of Benjamin Burr & Son as a clerk and continued until 1890, when he went into the lumber regions along the Plover River, and from 1894 until 1900 was associated with the well known lumber firm of Rodgers & Cook of Ashland, Wisconsin.

After Mr. Emmons returned to Stevens Point he engaged for a short time with a firm here as a traveling salesman, but the life did not suit him and he determined then to embark in business for himself, and on February 1, 1902, he opened a first class meat market. He dealt only in meats for the first four years and then expanded the scope of his business, adding a grocery line. On January 1, 1916, Mr. Emmons admitted his son, Myron Emmons, to a partnership, and the firm is now carrying on a large business in meats and groceries and are considered leaders in their line and are recognized as thoroughly reliable business men as well as dependable and useful citizens.

Mr. Emmons was married November 29, 1888, to Miss Matilda Neuman, who was born at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, in 1864. Her father, Gotlieb Neuman, now deceased, was one of the early business men of this place. Mr. and Mrs. Emmons have had three children, one daughter and two sons: Anna Maud, who died in September, 1915, when aged but twenty-three years, was a highly educated and socially popular young lady and was sincerely mourned by all who knew her; Myron, who is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School, is the junior member of the firm of C. E. Emmons & Son; and Roger, who is also a graduate of the high school of Stevens Point, is assistant cashier of the Hilbert State Bank of Hilbert, Calumet County, Wisconsin.

Mr. Emmons is one of the leading republicans of this part of Portage County and has served on numerous occasions in city offices. Fraternally he is a member of Evergreen Lodge No. 92, Free and Accepted Masons, and belongs also to the Knights of Pythias and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. The family belong to the Episcopal Church at Stevens Point.

EUGENE AUGUSTUS SHERMAN. One of the honorable old names of Portage County is that of Sherman, one that has been worthily borne from pioneer times to the present, during all these years representing industry, business enterprise and sterling personal character. In the early records few names appeared more frequently in connection with the establishing of mills, the building of highways, the founding of mercantile centers, the encouragement given to religious organizations and schools, in fact to the developing of the wilderness into a region of safety and comfort none were more active and useful than the Shermans. In the death of Eugene Augustus Sherman on November 30, 1912, Stevens Point lost a representative of this fine old family and a citizen who was most highly respected and universally esteemed.

Eugene Augustus Sherman was born March 28, 1857, at Plover

City, Portage County, Wisconsin. His parents were Simon Augustus and Rachel Sanders (Jones) Sherman. The father was born at Lynn, Massachusetts, and the mother at Rutledge, New Hampshire. They were typical New England people, industrious, frugal and conscientious. They came to Portage County in the early '40s and in locating at Plover, Simon Augustus Sherman had in mind the vast adjacent timberlands that would contribute to the success of his sawmill, and with keen business judgment he erected it on the Plover River, on the present site occupied by the Plover Paper Company. Shrewdly but honorably he acquired acre after acre of land until he became one of the largest landowners in the county and later acquired immense lumber interests in the northern part of the state. Of his extensive land holdings 400 acres still remain in the family. To him is attributed the establishing of the first store at Stevens Point, and for many years his residence was the finest home in Portage County. He was not only a leader in business and in early social activities in relation to neighborliness in community affairs in order to bring about more comfortable conditions of living, but he was a conscientious politician and accepted public office because of the opportunity it gave him to forward matters of general welfare. For many years he served as chairman of the Plover Township Board, and at one time his party put him forward as a candidate for the General Assembly. He was one of the early members of Evergreen Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons. He had two sons, Clarence Augustus and Eugene Augustus. Clarence Augustus Sherman married in Portage County and at his death, in 1887, left three sons: Walter C., who died in 1902; Frank E. and James E.

Eugene Augustus Sherman grew to manhood at Plover and attended school there and later took a course, as also did his brother, in Lawrence University at Appleton. He had many of his father's tastes and talents and soon became associated with him in the lumber business, learning it practically by working in lumber camps. Later he owned mills of his own and afterward built a store and a warehouse at Plover. For fifteen years he carried on a large business there and was one of the early potato buyers on a large scale. While still residing at Plover he united with the Masonic fraternity.

In 1902 he came to Stevens Point, and in 1903 he erected a substantial business house on the corner of Fremont and Jefferson streets, where he continued active in the business field until the time of his death. Among his other possessions Mr. Sherman owned a valuable sand pit which he operated under the trade name of the Sherman Sand and Gravel Company. Since his death this part of his business has been continued by his widow, who has proved quite capable. Mr. Sherman was a man of strict integrity and was held in high regard by the many men with whom his large interests brought him into contact and often competition. Never very active in political life, nevertheless he was a careful and thoughtful citizen and at no time under any circumstances did he neglect to perform a good citizen's duty to the fullest extent.

Mr. Sherman was married February 1, 1881, to Miss Rita Marie Andrews, who was born in Linwood Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, January 3, 1864. Her parents, who now reside at Stevens Point, are Sylvester and Lucy Ann (Topping) Andrews, the former of whom was born October 9, 1840, at Fort Atkinson, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, and the latter, July 15, 1840, in Schenectady County, New

York. Mrs. Sherman is the eldest of their six children, the others being: Ida May, Minnie, Anna Savilla, Clarence Ivan and Frances Maud. Mrs. Sherman's only brother is a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, a man of prominence in that body, and he is now in charge of the church at Whitewater, Wisconsin.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Sherman, namely: W. Eugene, who was born at Plover December 3, 1881, died December 10, 1886; Alta Mabel, who was born July 5, 1884; Helen Rachel, who was born July 29, 1888; Irene Lucy, who was born September 25, 1893; and Elizabeth Eleanor, who was born in 1903. Alta Mabel was graduated from the State Normal School at Stevens Point in 1905, after taking the entire course, and won the prize in the Normal oratorical contest, being the only one of her sex ever so honored. She was married August 10, 1909, to Dr. James Blaine Vedder, of Marshfield, and they have three children: Charles Albert, James Sherman and Frank Sanford. Helen Rachel, the second daughter of Mrs. Sherman, was married in 1910 to George Washington Blanchard, city attorney of Edgerton, Wisconsin, and also at one time as an appointee of Governor Phillips was attached to the executive office. Mr. and Mrs. Blanchard have one son, George W. Irene Lucy, third daughter, was married to Ernest L. Bates October 10, 1912, who is a representative of the Standard Oil Company at Antigo, Wisconsin, and they have two children, James Ernest, who was born October 25, 1913; and Rita Marie, who bears her grandmother's beautiful name, was born September 8, 1915.

J. S. LOBERG. Next to the late Jerome Nelson probably no man has played a more active and influential part in the growth and development of the Village of Nelsonville than J. S. Loberg. Mr. Loberg for many years was associated in business with Mr. Nelson, was active manager of the industrial activities which were at the center of Nelsonville's prosperity, and was also one of the live and enterprising men who practically organized the town and bore the responsibilities of civic enterprise here. Mr. Loberg is now practically retired from business.

He represents a pioneer Wisconsin family and was born in Iola Township of Waupaca County September 21, 1860, son of Simon N. and Serena (Omit) Loberg. Both parents were natives of Norway. The paternal grandfather, Nels T. Loberg, came from Hjarpen to America in 1849. The maternal grandparents, Nels and Sarah Omit, came from the same province of Norway and arrived in this country in 1847. Though these families came to America two years apart they followed the same route and method of travel. Both took passage at the seaport of Skeen, Norway, traveled on a sailing vessel across the ocean, landing after about eleven weeks voyage at New York City. A steamboat took them up the Hudson River to Albany, where they transferred to a canal boat on the Erie Canal and traveled westward to Buffalo. From that point the steam vessel carried them around the Great Lakes to Milwaukee, and they entered the wilds of Central Wisconsin with wagons and ox teams. Their first destination was Ashippen in Dodge County. The paternal grandparents located on government land in Dodge County. The maternal grandparents after a year or so in Dodge County moved to Scandinavia in Waupaca County, where Nels Omit founded a pioneer blacksmith shop, prob-

ably the first one in that part of the county. His son Nels continued the shop for many years, and thus one family supplied most of the service in this mechanical art to the community over a long period of years.

When the Lobergs and the Omits settled in Iola Township of Waupaca County their homes were surrounded by the dense woods, and Indians were frequent visitors. Simon Loberg acquired government land there, spent his active life as a farmer, and died on the old homestead. He cleared away the woods, erected the first buildings ever set up on the land, and made his preliminary improvements before bringing his family to their new home with wagon and ox teams from Dodge County. Accompanying the wagons he also drove some cows and sheep. Simon Loberg's widow spent her last days in the home of her daughter Mrs. Vevera at Nelsonville. There were four children: Regina, wife of Joseph Vevera, of Nelsonville; Nels, who lives in Forest County, Wisconsin; J. S. Loberg; and Severin, who was born March 6, 1863, and died March 24th of the same year.

Mr. J. S. Loberg attended some of the pioneer district schools of Waupaca County. He made good use of his opportunities and was well trained to the practical management of a farm by his father. In 1882 he left the farm and found employment in a flouring mill a little below Amherst on the Waupaca River. The proprietor of this mill was the late Jerome Nelson, founder of Nelsonville, concerning whom a more extended sketch is published on other pages. The old mill was at that time known as the Red Mill, and the plant has since been converted into an electric power station. Mr. Loberg was in that mill for eighteen years, and then removed to Nelsonville, where he took the management of the local flour mill for Mr. Nelson. On the death of Jerome Nelson he assumed entire management of the business, soon bought the plant, and operated it successfully until the spring of 1916, when he sold the business to the Jackson Milling Company. He is now living retired except for a little farming.

In 1884 he married Miss Flora Nelson, who was born at Stockton, Wisconsin, daughter of the late Jerome Nelson. Mr. and Mrs. Loberg have a family of six children, all of whom are living, and they are: Russell, of Stevens Point; Ruby, of Marion, Wisconsin; Luella, Miles, Marilla and John Jr., all at home. The family are communicants of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Loberg has been a prominent factor in the life and affairs of Nelsonville and the surrounding community for many years. In former years he was financially interested in most of the local business enterprises, including such corporations as the Telephone Company. He has served as clerk of the school board, was township supervisor before Nelsonville was incorporated, and did much to secure the incorporation of that village and was the first village chairman.

HON. JEROME NELSON was founder of the Town of Nelsonville in Amherst Township. The citizens of that locality may always feel a high degree of pride in the character and activities of the man thus honored. He was one of the pioneers of Portage County and developed in the course of his lifetime extensive interests as a manufacturer and miller, was a gallant soldier of the Union army, and always public spirited and high minded in his relationships with his home community or with the country at large.

He was born at Attica, New York, January 9, 1829, and died at the age of sixty-eight in January, 1897. He was the oldest child of Adin and Sally (Randall) Nelson. His father was a native of Massachusetts, and at the age of sixteen years accompanied his parents to Genesee County, New York. He and his wife were married at Attica in 1828. His wife was a daughter of Miles Randall. Prior to the War of 1812 Miles Randall had moved with his wife to Canada, but upon the outbreak of hostilities between Great Britain and the United States, being unwilling to subscribe his allegiance to the British government, he was compelled to return to his native country. His children were: Betsey, Statura, John, Sally, Esther, Harriet, Horace, and Aurilla. Adin Nelson was a farmer and miller and merchant. Seven years after his marriage he moved to Rochester, New York, and for a time he was an overseer during the construction of some of the first track, of the New York Central Railway. In 1836 he moved to Michigan, was a farmer in Lapeer County until about 1850, when he sold his land and moved to Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. There he conducted a general store for a time, but in 1853 sold out and came to Amherst Township of Portage County. As a pioneer in this section he improved and developed a farm, and also conducted a small store until shortly before his death. When about sixty-nine years of age he went back East to revisit the scenes of his childhood, and after a brief illness died at the home of a sister in Massachusetts. His wife lived until 1892, to the age of eighty-four. They had six children: Jerome; Harriet, who married Amos Wilts; Miles R., who was employed in a large store at New York City but died while visiting his brother Jerome in Amherst in 1856; George, who died in early childhood; Orpha, who died in infancy; George, second of the name, who married Marian Phillips and became a merchant at Waukegan, Illinois.

Jerome Nelson received his early education in the public schools of New York and the State of Michigan. As a boy he worked on the farm and in his father's store, but at nineteen started out in life for himself. One summer was spent in Chicago. From there he went south to Vicksburg, Mississippi, and for a time was engaged in cutting cypress logs at wages of \$20 a month. Two years later, with the money he had saved, he engaged in the same business for himself in partnership with Frank Johnson, a South Carolina planter. They operated on a successful scale for about two years.

In 1852 Jerome Nelson came to Wisconsin, and for a short time assisted his father on the farm. He then established and for two years conducted a small store at Barton in Washington County, Wisconsin. This was traded for real estate in the same county, but after two years he sold out and came to Amherst, where in the summer of 1855 he had established a pioneer sawmill.

Mr. Nelson was at the head of a successful business when the war broke out and demanded the best blood and manhood of the North to put down the rebellion. He did not hesitate as to the course he should pursue and in October, 1861, enlisted in Company H of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry. The regiment spent their first winter at Janesville, Wisconsin, and in March, 1862, was sent to St. Louis and two months later to Leavenworth, Kansas. Here they did some important duty in exterminating Quantrill's famous band of guerrillas along the Kansas border. They also served as guard to supply trains between Fort Scott and Fort Gibson and until the close of the war they were

sent on various missions, guarding the border, protecting the western posts from Indian or outlaw attack. Mr. Nelson was with his regiment through all the war and was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant. The war over, he returned to Amherst and resumed his milling operations.

Jerome Nelson became one of the leading industrial figures in Central Wisconsin. In 1855 he built a saw mill which, to use his own words, "wore out." In 1868 he erected a grist mill at Nelsonville. In 1873 he acquired by purchase a large flouring mill at Amherst, and in 1874 installed a steam saw mill at Nelsonville. These mills he continued to operate for a long period of years. He built up an enviable reputation for his products and, whether lumber or flour, they were in great demand not only locally but all over the central part of the state. Mr. Nelson did the pioneer work toward making Nelsonville, constructing the first dam across the river and thus utilizing the excellent water power. The land on which his mills and his elegant home stood was bought from the government in 1854. He was also interested in a saw mill in Oneida County, Wisconsin. This mill for some years cut ten million feet annually. The business was conducted under the title of the Nelson Lumber and Boom Company.

In May, 1853, soon after coming to Wisconsin, Mr. Nelson married in Washington County Miss Marilla H. Yerkes. She was born in Pennsylvania in 1835, and died at the old home in Nelsonville in 1899, two years after her husband. Her parents were David and Caroline (Calkins) Yerkes, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of New York State. The Yerkes family lived for a time in Michigan, but about 1847 came to Wisconsin Territory, settling in Barton Township of Washington County. Mr. Yerkes was a lumber manufacturer there. He died in 1893 and his wife in 1868. They had seven children: Mrs. Marion Phillips; Oliver J., who was a Civil war soldier with a New York cavalry regiment, and afterwards a farmer in Clark County, Wisconsin; Hannah E., who died in Michigan at the age of fourteen; Mrs. Marilla A. Nelson; Lovilla L. Baker; George W.; and Sarah E., who married Eli Hanks.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Nelson had no children of their own. They adopted and lavished all their affection upon a daughter Flora S., who lived in their home from infancy. She is now Mrs. John S. Loberg, who for many years was actively associated in business with Mr. Nelson.

Mrs. Jerome Nelson was for many years active in the Episcopal Church. Jerome Nelson took his first degrees in Masonry in 1878 in Evergreen Lodge at Stevens Point. He was also a member of Crusade Commandery of the Knights Templar. In politics he was a staunch republican. He was the type of man who is selected for important public services, though he was extremely modest and was unwilling to accept the honors that were often urged upon him. In 1876 he was elected a member of the State Legislature, and at one time was chosen a justice of the peace, but refused to qualify for the reason that judicial duties were distasteful to a man of his sympathetic nature. Several times he was a member of the town board. It was through his business and his close relationship with the community and his fellow men, always actuated by the highest principles of honor and philanthropy, that he performed his chief public service, and for which he



will always be entitled to a place of honor in the history of Portage County.

**CHARLES A. SCHENK.** Among the men who for some years have been of considerable importance both in business and in public affairs at Stevens Point is Charles A. Schenk, who has many interests and many friends, and since 1902 has been treasurer of one of the city's large enterprises, the Stevens Point Brewing Company.

Charles A. Schenk is a native of Wisconsin and was born at Portage City in Columbia County October 20, 1862. His parents were Carl and Eva (Bortcher) Schenk, who were born, reared and married in Germany. From that country they came to the United States in 1851 and later reached Wisconsin, having lived at Buffalo, New York, for several years. The father was a cabinetmaker and worked at his trade in Buffalo and for many years afterward in Columbia County, Wisconsin. In politics he was a democrat and on many occasions his sound, practical sense recommended him to his fellow citizens for public office, but he was never willing to accept. His death occurred in Portage County in 1875. Both he and wife were faithful members of the Evangelical Church. Her death occurred at Portage City in 1866. They had three children, namely: Amelia, Augusta and Charles A.

Charles A. Schenk was reared at Portage City and attended the public schools, there remaining until 1878, when he came to Stevens Point, being then but sixteen years old. Home sickness, perhaps, drew him back to Portage City, but in 1883 he returned to Stevens Point and has lived here ever since. He had previously worked in a lumber yard, while still attending school, but after re-locating at Stevens Point, learned the barber's trade and engaged in work in that line for six years. In the meanwhile he had become interested in the jewelry business and in 1889 embarked in the same, under the firm name of Schenk & Arenberg, and was engaged in this business for the following six years, when he was elected city treasurer. During his years of active business he had found time to interest himself in public affairs in city and county, and as a good citizen and a man of public spirit consented to accept political responsibilities and honestly and efficiently performed the duties pertaining thereto. After serving six years as city treasurer he was elected alderman from the Third Ward, and during the succeeding six years that he continued in office he was able to do much for the permanent improvement of his part of the city and for Stevens Point generally. Although not serving in public office at the present time, he continues a ruling factor in the councils of the democratic party. In 1902 Mr. Schenk acquired an interest in the Stevens Point Brewing Company and became treasurer and is also one of the directors.

Mr. Schenk was married in 1885 to Miss Otelia Arenberg, who was born at Watertown in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, and is a daughter of the late Carl Arenberg, a pioneer of this county, who died at Stevens Point. Mrs. Schenk was reared in Jefferson County and was educated in the public schools. Mr. and Mrs. Schenk had four children, one dying in infancy: Elsie graduated as a nurse in September, 1918, and is now attending the Minnesota State University, taking a course in social welfare nursing; Meta is a teacher in the public schools at Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and Karl E., who became an officer in the United

States Signal Service, and was formerly a member of Battery E, One Hundred and Twentieth Light Artillery, stationed at Waco, Texas, is now in France with the United States forces, and is a sergeant. Mr. Schenk and his family attend the Evangelical Church. The family home at No. 934 Normal Avenue is one of pleasant hospitality, Mr. Schenk being genial and generous by nature, and also outside his own home is never forgetful of those who are not so fortunate and need charity.

ARTHUR H. BAKER, of Stevens Point, is a railroad man, and has undergone all the discipline and training of that business since early boyhood. His is a record of steady promotion to efficiency and responsibility. For a number of years he has been one of the Soo Line's conductors.

Mr. Baker, who was born at Stevens Point March 28, 1887, is son of a veteran railroad man now retired, Frank C. Baker. His mother was Caroline Trapp. Both were natives of Germany but were married in Wisconsin. The father was born May 4, 1853, and the mother May 18, 1856. Frank C. Baker arrived in Wisconsin at Fremont December 18, 1872, and Miss Trapp came the following year. They married in 1874 and in 1876 located at Auburndale, Wisconsin, where they had their home eight years, but since then for the most part have lived in Stevens Point. Frank C. Baker has been connected with the old Wisconsin or the Soo Line for forty-five years and during the past four years has been on the honor roll of pensions. He began as a section hand, was promoted to foreman, and for thirty years was roadmaster. In politics he is a republican and while living at Marshfield in Wood County was a member of the County Board. He is a Lutheran and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America at Stevens Point. Frank C. Baker and wife had nine children, Emma; Charles; Gustav and Lizzie, both of whom died in infancy; Frank; Arthur H.; Alfred; Annie, who died in infancy, and Emmett Earl. The oldest, Emma, married F. W. Schmidt and has two children, Carl and Wilfred, and by her previous marriage to Otto Backhus had three children, Dorothy, Loretta and Otto. The son Charles died January 8, 1907, leaving one daughter, Helen, by his marriage to Allie Braden. Frank is a resident of Belle Plain, Iowa, married Florence Murray and has two children, Frank and Ruth Annie. Alfred is a graduate of high school and of the Stevens Point Normal, is a teacher at Eureka, Montana, and has taken up a homestead and has done much to clear and develop it, spending his summer vacations on the farm. He married Mabel Anderson. The youngest child, Emmett E., is an operator with the Soo Line at New Richmond, Wisconsin.

Arthur H. Baker was educated in the public schools of Stevens Point and at the age of seventeen left high school to begin active work as a railroader. His first job was water boy for an extra gang, and later he was timekeeper. At eighteen he was made a brakeman and with the exception of one year with the Northwestern Railway has spent all his career with the Wisconsin Central. In 1910 he was promoted to conductor and is one of the younger men who have those responsibilities. He is a member of both the Order of Railway Trainmen and Order of Railway Conductors. He is also affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Mystic Workers at Stevens Point, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles at Marshfield.

Politically he is independent. He was reared a Lutheran and his wife a Catholic.

February 22, 1909, Mr. Baker married Miss Margaret Scherr. She was born at Marshfield January 12, 1888, a daughter of Philip and Mary Ann (Huth) Scherr, of Marshfield, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have one son, Arthur H., Jr., born February 4, 1910. Mr. Baker and family and his parents all live in a pleasant and comfortable home at 902 Center Avenue in Stevens Point.

**PHILIP ROTHMAN.** One of the early merchants and substantial business men and representative citizens of Stevens Point passed away in the death of Philip Rothman on December 5, 1906. His interests were many, his character unblemished and his influence wide for many years, and he is recalled as one of the honorable and useful men of this part of Portage County.

Philip Rothman was born in Wisconsin, near the City of Fond du Lac, in Fond du Lac County, September 27, 1854. His parents lived at that time in the Village of Calumet Harbor and his father died there. His mother, Mrs. Barbara Rothman, lived to be almost ninety years old, dying in 1916 at Washington, D. C.

Mr. Rothman was twenty-three years old when he came to Stevens Point. He had secured a public school education in Fond du Lac County and had had some clerking experience at Wausau and Menasha, and in 1877 he became a clerk for Henry Hoefler in this city. On August 22, 1884, he embarked in business for himself, starting in a small way on the corner of Clark and South Third Street, just across the street from his former employer's establishment, putting in a stock of dry goods and groceries. He had been in business but a short time, however, when a fire adjacent caused the goods to be moved to another building, the west half of the building now occupied by Philip Rothman & Company. He resumed business and within a few years found his quarters too small and then occupied the eastern part of the building also and subsequently the second floor. In 1900 Mr. Rothman enlarged the building to its present size, its dimensions being 132½ by 46 feet, with an annex with dimensions of 33 by 60 feet on Third Street. Shortly after he embarked in business Mr. Rothman discontinued his grocery department but enlarged his ladies' ready to wear, dry goods and carpet departments. He took a deep interest in his business and was a very successful merchant and was proud of the fact that he had built up his fortunes through his own efforts. In addition to owning his large store he had a fine residence at No. 527 Clark Street, and in addition to realty had banking interests. He was one of the founders of the Citizens National Bank and at the time of his death was vice president of the Wisconsin State Bank. Because of his high personal character his name was a valuable asset in any business and frequently he was invited to become a member of the directing boards of different business concerns of importance.

After coming to Stevens Point Mr. Rothman was married to Miss Ida Hoefler, a daughter of Henry Hoefler, and they had the following children born to them: Anna, who was graduated from the high school of Stevens Point and subsequently from the Chicago Musical College, belongs to the cultured musical circle in this city; Edward H., who was born at Stevens Point March 21, 1883, was graduated with credit from the high school here and then assisted his father in the store

and since his death has been a member of the firm of Philip Rothman & Company, manager of the same jointly with his brother, they being members of the firm also. Edward H. Rothman was married June 29, 1905, to Miss Ollie Huntley, of Stevens Point, and they have one son, Philip H. He is a member of the Episcopal Church, politically is independent and fraternally belongs to Evergreen Lodge No. 93, Free and Accepted Masons, and to the Chapter and Commandery, and also to the Order of Elks.

Winfred Rothman, second son of the late Philip Rothman, was born at Stevens Point June 12, 1886. He was educated in the public schools here and St. John's Military Academy at Delafield, Wisconsin, from which he was graduated in June, 1906, after which he entered the mercantile business, as mentioned above. He was married July 24, 1907, to Miss Edith Burr, who is a daughter of Emmons Burr, and they have two sons, Richard and Neal. Mr. Rothman, like his brother, is independent in politics and is a Knight Templar in Masonry. Lucille, the youngest member of Mr. Rothman's family, was born at Stevens Point December 22, 1896, and is a graduate of the high school in this city.

The late Philip Rothman was an ideal citizen, energetic and public spirited, honest and efficient. While he was a staunch republican in his political views, when he was elected mayor of Stevens Point he never permitted political influence to sway him from what he considered the path of duty. During his two years of incumbency the city prospered as never before.

Mr. Rothman was an early and zealous member of the Masonic fraternity, a Knight Templar and Shriner, ever prizing his connection with Evergreen Lodge No. 93, Free and Accepted Masons. He was identified with other organizations, including the Modern Woodmen of America and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He was a consistent member of the Episcopal Church and through that and other mediums his benefactions to charity were conscientiously bestowed.

**GEORGE L. ROGERS.** For many years a prominent figure in the industrial, commercial and public life of Stevens Point, George L. Rogers, now living retired from business activities, was for upwards of a quarter of a century conspicuously identified with the lumber interests of Portage County. A son of the late P. V. M. Rogers, he was born March 9, 1852, at Rippon, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin.

Born May 1, 1812, in Rome, Oneida County, New York, P. V. M. Rogers spent his earlier life in his native state. Coming to Wisconsin with his family in 1850, he resided for six years in Rippon. In 1856 he located at Stevens Point, and opening a meat market on Main Street, he conducted it for a number of years. He was a whig in politics until the formation of the republican party, when he became one of its most earnest supporters. He was active in public affairs, and at the time of his death, September 16, 1867, was serving as street commissioner. Fraternally he was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Religiously he attended either the Presbyterian or the Episcopal Church. His wife, whose maiden name was Jane Lamphere, was born in Sherburne, Chenango County, New York, in 1816, and died January 5, 1850, at Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Three children were born of their union, David, George L. and Maro.

But four years old when he was brought by his parents to Stevens Point, George L. Rogers was here educated, attending the public schools, the old White School and a select school. At the age of fifteen years he began working by the month, being first employed in the lumber camps and later doing business as a jobber. From 1874 until 1878 Mr. Rogers served as a clerk in the Post Office, under Horace Grant, postmaster. He was afterwards prosperously engaged in the lumber business, with which he was thoroughly conversant, from 1880 until 1907. Having accumulated a fair share of this world's goods, Mr. Rogers is now enjoying a well deserved leisure.

In his political affiliations he is a staunch republican, and though living in the Fourth Ward, a democratic stronghold, he has served as alderman; from 1892 until 1894 was city treasurer; and in 1898 was elected mayor. He is now serving his third term as city comptroller. In 1900 he was a delegate to the Republican National Convention, which met in Philadelphia, nominating McKinley and Roosevelt. Fraternally Mr. Rogers is prominent in Masonic circles, belonging to Lodge, Chapter and Commandery; and is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Mr. Rogers married Mina M. Whitney, who was born in New Brunswick in September, 1855. Her father, George Whitney, came from New Brunswick to Wisconsin in 1868, settling first in Knowlton, Marathon County, and later coming to Stevens Point, where he was engaged in the lumber business until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Jane Rogers, died in 1889. Five children have been born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, namely: Forest Wayne, born July 21, 1878; Chester Garfield, born May 29, 1881; Everett Fenton; Alice Charlotte; and Guy Whitney. Forest Wayne Rogers, the oldest child, is associated with the Edward Hines Lumber Company, being at the head of the timberland department, with residence at Park Falls, Wisconsin. He married Annette Moran. Chester Garfield is a practicing attorney of Minneapolis, Minnesota, with an office at No. 310 McKnight Building. He married Leota Prater, and they have one son, Robert Chester. Everett Fenton Rogers, a bond and stock broker, with an office in the Boston Block at Minneapolis, married Kate Beck, and they have one child, Mary Jane. Alice Charlotte Rogers, the only daughter of the parental household, is a teacher in the public schools of Stevens Point. Guy Whitney Rogers is city editor of the Stevens Point Gazette.

**RUPERT WARDE.** The Warde family have been in Portage County over sixty-five years, and their personal experiences and activities touch many points of interest in Stevens Point and elsewhere through the county. Mr. Rupert Warde has spent nearly all his life in this county and was in the old days an active woodsman and river man, followed the vocation of agriculture for many years, and is now enjoying honorable retirement in Stevens Point.

He is of English family and was born at Moxter in Staffordshire, England, June 20, 1849, a son of Herbert and Elizabeth (Shepard) Warde. His father was born in Staffordshire March 10, 1812, and his mother in Derbyshire about 1816. The father's first wife was Letitia Gotrich. There were four children by that marriage, and they also came to Portage County. A brief record of them is as follows: Sarah, who married Martin Perkins; Louise, wife of Joel King; Herbert, who

owned a large farm near Amherst Junction, now occupied by his son Victor; and Edwin, who lived at Plover and Stevens Point.

Two years after the birth of their son Rupert, Herbert and Elizabeth Warde started for America. They took boat on August 14, 1851, and arrived in New York City September 14th of the same year. Their destination was Wisconsin, which was then comparatively out on the western frontier. To get there they traveled up the Hudson River, took a canal boat on the Erie Canal and from Buffalo traveled around the Great Lakes to Milwaukee. They used the railroad to Plainfield, went to Dodge Center, and on January 1, 1852, a wagon brought them into the little village of Stevens Point. Herbert Warde was a tailor by trade. He bought property on Water Street and there for a number of years stood the sign H. Warde, tailor. Later he bought eighty acres of land in Hull Township and traded that to David Clements for another eighty acres near Stockton Station. He subsequently bought other lands in Stockton Township, and developed a considerable farm and also did much dealing in livestock. He died at the old homestead March 29, 1877. His widow passed away in Stockton Township in 1883. The father was a republican and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Church. They had five children: Rupert; Henry, who died March 29, 1915, at the age of sixty-four; Ella, wife of Lewis Sawyer, of Stevens Point; Charles, who died when fourteen years old; and Ada Elizabeth, who died in 1892.

Rupert Warde grew up at Stevens Point and in Stockton Township, and had such educational advantages as were supplied by the common schools of that day. He attended school in the first schoolhouse at Stevens Point. That old school building, long since used for other purposes, is still standing and occupied by Lizzie Cadman. At the age of sixteen Mr. Warde's practical experiences began as a worker in the woods and on the river. He spent fourteen winters in the lumber woods, and usually spent the summer driving logs on the river. He was a man of great physical strength and agility, and was famed among the older residents as a pedestrian. Two of his feats in walking may be recalled. One time he walked from Stockton to Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, a distance of twenty-two miles, in four hours. He almost equaled this record when he walked from Seewright's Landing to Stockton, a distance of twenty miles, also in four hours.

From his earnings in the lumber woods Mr. Warde saved enough to buy a farm in Stockton Township. This land was about four miles from the old homestead. He cleared it up and after putting part of it in cultivation sold out and bought the John Stumpf farm of 200 acres near Arnott. He made this one of the fine farms of Stockton Township, and eventually increased its size to 280 acres. Subsequently he gave his son, Edwin Rupert, eighty acres, and sold the rest of the farm. He now owns lands in Plover Township, and has several pieces of valuable property in Stevens Point. Mr. Warde has lived in Stevens Point since 1905, his home being at 344 Illinois Avenue.

Mr. Warde has always given a public spirited attention to local affairs. In Stockton Township he served as supervisor and was a member of the school board for about twenty-five years. He was also one of the organizers of the Arnott Creamery, and while living in the country was one of its officials for nine years. He is a republican and active in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

November 19, 1876, Mr. Warde married Martha Lewis. She

was born in Wales and when a child came to Portage County with her parents. Mrs. Warde died in 1891, the mother of two children. Edwin, the older, was born August 23, 1877, and is now a Montana farmer. He married Ethel Brown, of Eau Clair, Wisconsin, and their two children are Lewis and Ruth. Bessie Mary, the daughter, was born June 19, 1882, and married Charles Leary, living near Arnett in Portage County. They have two children, John Warde and Isla Martha.

Mr. Warde married for his second wife Lena Kussmann, who died in 1906. On March 16, 1908, Elizabeth Birch, of Charleston, Coles County, Illinois, became his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Warde now enjoy all the comforts won by his early years of enterprising effort. The summer of 1918 they spent in complete recreation from local duties and responsibilities, visiting Mr. Warde's son in Montana.

**DON W. SAWYER.** The history of the Sawyer family runs back in the pioneer times of Portage County. They not only built some of the first homes in Belmont Township, cleared some of the first land devoted to the uses of civilization, and otherwise provided well for themselves in material affairs, but the name has been conspicuously identified with the public life of this section of the state.

The family was founded here by the late Stillman H. Sawyer. The official records of the county show some of his services and he was one of the most stalwart of the early pioneers. He was born at Gardner, Maine, November 2, 1819. A native of the extreme north-eastern state of the Union, his travels and experiences took him across the entire continent. In 1849 he went west to California. In 1845 he married Lucy Fogg, who was born at Bangor, Maine, in 1836. The year after their marriage Stillman and Mary Sawyer came west to Portage County and located on eighty acres of land in Belmont Township in section 11. Stillman Sawyer built what was probably the first frame house in that township. His business affairs were prospered and eventually he had a fine farm of 200 acres. He died on the old homestead in 1896, and his wife passed away in 1889.

Stillman Sawyer in spite of his age was a volunteer soldier in the Civil war. In 1861 he enlisted in Company E of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry. His service was almost uninterrupted until near the close of the war. He was in most of the battles in which his regiment was engaged, including that of Shiloh, and at Altoona Pass was captured and held a prisoner of war until exchanged in November, 1864. After that he was in a Federal Hospital until mustered out in January, 1865. He held the rank of sergeant.

His political record was made up of service as township clerk, and for two terms he held the office of register of deeds and for two terms was county treasurer of Portage County. He was a steadfast republican in politics, was an active member of the Grand Army Post and a member of the Masonic Order. His wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

By his first marriage Stillman Sawyer had four children, Edlah, Georgiana, Charles Madison and Frederick. By his second marriage his children were Herbert A., Clarence A., Don W., Luella and Stillman E.

Don W. Sawyer, who was born in Belmont Township November 13, 1860, has exemplified many of the excellent traits and qualities

of his father both in the quiet industry of farming and as a public spirited citizen. He grew up on the old homestead, but at the age of fourteen began making his own way in the world. He worked as a farm hand while attending school at Winchester, Wisconsin, later rented the old homestead, and also rented land now comprised within his present farm. In 1889 Mr. Sawyer bought 162½ acres in Belmont Township and has increased his holdings there to 220 acres and has other land interests elsewhere. Modern improvements prevail on his farm, and he has a fine residence, though it was remodeled from one of the early homes of the township. Mr. Sawyer handles high grade Guernsey cattle.

Politically he is a democrat. For many years he has served as chairman of the township board, and has also been assessor, treasurer and road commissioner. He is affiliated with the Order of Beavers.

February 22, 1883, Mr. Sawyer married Miss Alice Hough. She was born at Winchester, Wisconsin, May 9, 1863, a daughter of Nathan and Dennis (Roylance) Hough, early settlers of Winchester Township in Winnebago County. Her father was a Union soldier. Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer have been greatly prospered not only in their material affairs but in the splendid family that have grown up around them. They are the parents of twelve: Orville D., Morris R., Daisy O., Bessie A., Mary E., Ruth E., Wayne, Dale Bryan, Floyd, Eva May, Celia and Clair. All are living except Ruth, Wayne and Daisy O., the last named dying on the 21st of October, 1918.

SIGMUND HUTTER was the founder of the Rolnik, the first Polish language newspaper in Portage County. That distinction, important in itself, is not sufficient to describe the broad and genial spirit of the man, and the invaluable influence he exercised during a most useful life in this community.

He was born at Suwalki, Russian Poland, May 2, 1856. His opportunities and education were those afforded the higher classes. He received the degree of Law from the University of Warsaw, Poland. For several years he practiced his profession in Suwalki and later was recommended for appointment to a government office, which he held until 1880.

March 30, 1880, he married Maria Morine, of Vilna, Poland, daughter of a chemist. The following spring, on April 10, 1881, they sailed for America, immediately settling at Stevens Point in Portage County. This county was already represented by numerous Polish inhabitants. They were being rapidly amalgamated into the life and spirit of the American community, though in that process they were naturally handicapped by lack of the sources of information afforded only by a newspaper in their own language. It was this problem that Sigmund Hutter set himself to solve. He brought out the first edition of the now existing Rolnik Polish Weekly in 1890. It was published under rather difficult circumstances, as he had but slight knowledge of the mechanical branch of this enterprise. His editing ability and business management soon became widely recognized, and in a few years practically every Polish family in the county was on the list of regular subscribers. The editor's political views were of an independent character, and his sound editorial policy soon built up a wonderful following. The paper was highly valued in the community by both political parties, and enjoyed an uninterrupted career of prosperity.



The publication was successfully operated under Mr. Hutter's guidance until the first of January, 1902. At that time the publisher decided to retire to private life, and sold his plant and interest to his mechanical managers, S. H. Worzalla and J. A. Worzalla, who still continue the publication.

As is often the case, the quiet and ease of private life, so unnatural to the spirit and character of Mr. Hutter, rather augmented than ameliorated his poor health. The remainder of his days were spent in the care of physicians and at health resorts. After submitting to an operation at St. Mary's Hospital of Oshkosh in the spring of 1906 he went to Hot Springs, Arkansas, for recuperation. Then followed a relapse, and he died December 17, 1906. He was survived by his wife, Mrs. Maria Hutter, and two sons, John J. Hutter of Winona, Minnesota, and A. D. Hutter, who is now the active head of Hutter Brothers Printing Concern, printers, stationers, and dealers and manufacturers of office equipment and bookkeeping systems at Stevens Point.

JOHN R. BRINKER, now deceased, came into the wilds of Wisconsin more than sixty years ago, and the more substantial results of his life's activities connected him with Portage County. He was a self made man, had to depend upon his own exertions to get him the things his ambition craved, and he not only gained a competence for himself but gained the good will and respect of his fellow men by his responsiveness to those duties and obligations which are part of good citizenship.

Mr. Brinker was born in Clarion, Pennsylvania, March 4, 1835. At the age of eleven years he was left an orphan, and from that time had to make his own way in the world. He learned the trade of blacksmith. In 1856, at the age of twenty-one, he came to Wisconsin and accompanied the late Dr. A. S. McDill to this state. The following winter he worked as a blacksmith for O. H. P. Bigelow. Later he formed a partnership with Michael O'Keefe, and then opened a shop at Springville in Portage County. At the outbreak of the war business fell off, the shop was closed and on October 15, 1864, Mr. Brinker enlisted in Company F of the Second Wisconsin Infantry. He saw considerable active service during the closing months of the war and was granted his honorable discharge June 16, 1865. After the war he followed piloting on the river. On June 3, 1869, he married Miss Rhoda Dodds.

They made their home at Plover until 1876, when they removed to Stevens Point. Here Mr. Brinker formed a partnership with Mr. O'Keefe, and for several years they had the leading blacksmith shop in the city. Later Mr. Brinker became sole proprietor and continued active in his work until 1890, when he sold to Mr. Hoefler and retired.

In 1869 he bought a fine farm in Stockton Township of Portage County, though he never lived on it himself. He had the good fortune and the enviable distinction of having this farm occupied for more than thirty-three years by one tenant, Mr. Michael Clark.

The late Mr. Brinker was a member of the Presbyterian Church from the time he was eleven years of age. He was a Free Mason and always loyally affiliated with his comrades of the Grand Army



JOHN R. BRINKER

of the Republic, and the Grand Army Post attended his funeral in a body.

Mrs. Rhoda (Dodds) Brinker, who survives her husband, is one of the prominent women of Portage County. She was born in the Town of Franklin, Venango County, Pennsylvania, daughter of Darius and Rhoda (Austin) Dodds. Her father was born in Delaware County, New York, March 21, 1806, and her mother in the same county March 1, 1806. They married in New York State, moved from there to Pennsylvania and in 1853 came to the wilderness of Portage County, Wisconsin. Her father was a farmer and contractor, owning a tract of land in Stockton Township. He sold this farm in 1858 and moved to Plover, where he engaged in the contracting business until his death in 1892. His wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Brinker is the only surviving child of nine, named as follows: Laura, Cordelia, Caroline, Darius, Pardon, Rhoda, Clinton, Loren and John. Three of her brothers, Clinton, Pardon and Loren, were soldiers in the Union army during the Civil war.

Mrs. Brinker was educated at Plover, Wisconsin, and for several years was a successful teacher both in public schools and also in a select school at Plover. A number of men who have since become successful and prominent at one time were her pupils. Mrs. Brinker has been a member of the Episcopal Church since 1884. She is active in the Eastern Star and in the Stevens Point Woman's Club. She is a woman of active intelligence and a mind broadened by much travel, study and contact with the world. She is known locally as a talented writer both in prose and verse and has read some most admirable papers before the Woman's Club. She has traveled extensively all over her home country, and there are few of the larger cities anywhere in the United States to which she has not gone. Mrs. Brinker owns a fine home at 1018 Main Street in Stevens Point.

JOHN BIBBY, a resident of Buena Vista Township for a long period of years, has had a career that challenges admiration and respect. It has the solid basis of industry and is crowned by a success of his own achieving, won by the strictest regards to honest principles and integrity of character.

Mr. Bibby's experiences and recollections of Portage County date back more than half a century. He was born in Waukesha County of this state June 10, 1843, son of Francis and Eleanor (Blackburn) Bibby. His parents were natives of England. His father was born at Kirkby August 25, 1816, and his mother March 15, 1819. A short time after their marriage they immigrated to America, locating in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, about 1849 moving to Winnebago County, that state, and from their farm in that locality they came in 1860 to Portage County and established a new home on ninety acres in Buena Vista Township. Francis Bibby was a true representative of the sturdy character of England, was a man of energy and fine character, and made a success of his business as a farmer. Besides the homestead of ninety acres he acquired another farm of 120 acres and was finally able to retire from business and spend his years in comfort at Stevens Point, where he died in 1892. He twice visited California. His wife died about 1875. The record of their children is as follows: Miles, born July 30, 1841; John, born June 10, 1843; Mary Jane, born August 13, 1845; Sarah A., born September 4, 1847;

Elizabeth E., born August 25, 1849; William E., born October 27, 1851; Benjamin T., born July 8, 1853; Francis B., born July 5, 1854; Bertha Agnes, born June 19, 1856; Joseph H., born July 5, 1857; Margaret E., born April 21, 1860; and Alice Bertha, born March 28, 1863. Only three are now living, John, Elizabeth and Margaret.

Mr. John Bibby was about eighteen years old when his parents come to Portage County. He acquired his education in district schools and grew up to a manhood capable of sharing in the difficult and arduous occupations of his generation. In 1863 he was drawn in the draft for the Civil war, but his services were never required. During his youthful years he did much work in the lumber woods and on the river. Twice he was out with one of the well known river pilots of that day, Heman Webster, of a prominent Portage County family elsewhere referred to. He was also on the river traffic with David Shelburn, another figure in Portage County history.

After taking up his regular career as a farmer Mr. Bibby bought eighty acres where he now lives in Buena Vista Township. His possessions have steadily grown by the successive additions of forty acres, another forty acres, and finally twenty acres. Most of this land was cleared up after he bought it, and the farm now represents many years of sustained labor on his part. He has a group of substantial buildings, and for many years has been engaged in general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Bibby has had no inclination to hold office, though he has done some good work in behalf of education. For about twelve years he was treasurer of the school board of his district and for two terms was a school director. He is a republican voter. His parents were both members of the Episcopal Church.

In 1876 Mr. Bibby married Miss Margaret Brown, who was born in Delavan, Wisconsin, June 10, 1854, daughter of Nathaniel and Margaret (McGallerick) Brown. Her parents were both natives of Ireland and on coming to America settled at Delavan and in 1864 moved to Almond Township of Portage County. Her father died there in 1906, at the age of eighty-eight, and his wife passed away in 1884, at the age of fifty-six. Their children included Alexander, now deceased; Margaret; Mary, and Thomas J.

Mr. and Mrs. Bibby have seen a family of children grow up about them and they now have several grandchildren. Frank, their oldest son, is a butter maker by trade; Ella married Joseph Burkel; Charles married Maud Punrea, and their family consists of two sons, Clifford and Leonard. John, the fourth of the family, married Minnie Sustins, and their only son, Harold John, is now the family representative in the great war, being a member of the Engineer Corps and at present stationed at Washington, D. C. Bertha married Vernon Adams, and their children are Gladys, deceased, Randall and John Nathaniel. The youngest of the family is William, a practical farmer living with his father.

PETER PETERSON. During a residence in Portage County of more than twenty years Peter Peterson has provided himself with all the comforts of a good country home, has developed a fine farm in Belmont Township, and has become reckoned as one of the steadfast and capable citizens of that locality.

He is a man of wide experience and much travel and has seen a

great deal of the world in his lifetime. He was born in Denmark December 22, 1862, a son of Ole and Mary (Jensen) Peterson. Both parents are now deceased, his father having died when about sixty-five and his mother when about seventy years of age. They spent their lives in Denmark. Their children were: Anna, Peter, Marie, Lars, Christina, Jens and Lena.

Mr. Peter Peterson has been making his own way in the world since he was about twelve years old. He was reared and educated in his native country and in April, 1885, set out for the New World. He spent about nine years in Canada, both in the eastern and western provinces. During that time his experience was most varied. He worked in the sawmills and lumber woods of the far west in British Columbia, also spent one winter in Michigan, and by constant work and thrifty habits accumulated a small amount of capital which enabled him to visit Denmark and his parents and later come to Portage County in 1895 and where he bought a farm of 120 acres in Belmont Township. After keeping this farm about eight years he sold it, and in 1904 bought his present place in Belmont Township. He now owns 100 acres, well improved and highly cultivated and devotes it to general farming purposes. He bought his present place from J. C. F. Fletcher.

Mr. Peterson is a democrat and has served as side supervisor of his township. He and his wife attend the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1896 he married Miss Sarah Moran. She was born in Belmont Township, daughter of William and Rhoda (Dickerson) Moran, both early settlers of Portage County and now deceased. Her father was a farmer and in politics a republican. Mrs. Peterson was one of a family of seven children: Edward, Warren, Hugh, Morris, Sarah, Josie and Sephronia.

**ANTON J. KUBISIAK.** A native of Portage County, member of one of the old and substantial families that have lived here through portions of three generations, Anton J. Kubisiak has become widely known through his operations as a potato buyer, and is now proprietor of a large stock of general merchandise at Arnott in Stockton Township.

Mr. Kubisiak was born in Hull Township of this county January 10, 1874, son of Albert and Frances (Dzwonkowski) Kubisiak. Both parents were natives of Poland. His father was born in the Province of Posen in the Village of Gulaz, April 23, 1842, and in 1866 immigrated to America, landing in New York, and the following year coming to Portage County. His parents, John and Veronica (Jurek) Kubisiak followed him after an interval of about a year and located on land north of Stevens Point bought for them by their son Albert. Some years later the grandparents moved to Amherst, where they died. Albert Kubisiak engaged in farming, and about 1869 married Miss Dzwonkowski, who had come to Portage County when a child with her parents, Christopher and Josephine (Konopocki) Dzwonkowski, who located in Sharon Township on a farm and spent the rest of their years in that locality. After his marriage Albert Kubisiak settled in Hull Township, but in April, 1874, moved to a farm in Amherst, where he is still living, steadily carrying on his vocation as an agriculturist. He and his wife had ten children: John, Anton J., Catherine, Mary, Joseph, deceased, Theodore, Frank, Felix, who died in infancy, Elnora and Stanley. The father of these children besides

farming also worked in the lumber woods when a young man, and frequently helped take rafts of lumber down the rivers as far as St. Louis.

Anton J. Kubisiak grew up on his father's farm in Amherst Township, and his education came from the local schools of the same locality. He was a farmer during his younger years, but in 1900 began buying potatoes at Fancher in this county. He continued actively in business at that point from 1900 to 1915, and then moved his headquarters to Arnott where he is proprietor of a general store and buys and sells merchandise of all descriptions. In politics he is a democrat, and has served as township assessor of Stockton Township for several years, and is now township treasurer. He and his family are members of the Polish Catholic Church.

In 1901 Mr. Kubisiak married Juliana Drifka. She was born in Stockton Township in February, 1885, daughter of Casimer and Theresa (Dulak) Drifka. Her parents came from West Prussia in 1871, first settled in Sharon Township, and about 1881 removed to Stockton Township, where her father died in 1908 and where her widowed mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Kubisiak have six children, all living, named Irene, Bernard, Clement, Florence, Raymond and Orville.

EMIL BELKE. An interesting record of business growth and progress which has made one of the formerly poor boys of Stevens Point an independent executive and head of a growing enterprise is that of Emil Belke, who is proprietor of the Belke Manufacturing Company at 247 North Second Street.

Mr. Belke was born in German Poland February 16, 1874, son of August and Marie Belke. His parents came to Portage County in 1890, locating at Stevens Point, where the father became well known as a citizen and where he died in March, 1912, at the age of sixty-nine, leaving a respected and honored name. The mother died in 1909 when about sixty years of age. They had seven children, five of whom died in German Poland and one, Olga, passed away here. The Belke family were members of the Catholic Church.

Emil Belke was sixteen years old when his family came to Portage County, and nearly all his literary education was acquired in his native land. After coming to this country he attended a business college at Stevens Point, but from the very beginning was making his own way as a laborer or as an apprentice carpenter and cabinet maker. He followed those trades a number of years, and in 1916 set up a small shop of his own for the manufacture of doors, sash, blinds and other finished woodwork. He has developed his shop into a substantial plant, and has a business that is already rated as one of the successful concerns of Stevens Point and has tremendous possibilities of growth in the future.

Mr. Belke is a democrat in politics and member of the Catholic Church. In 1909 he married Miss July Borski, of Stevens Point. Mrs. Belke was born in German Poland, and her parents died there. She came to Stevens Point when a small girl. They have one son, Edmond, born November 13, 1914.

EDWARD PERRY TOBIE. Having devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits and being a man of solid qualities and progressive ideas,

Edward Perry Tobie has become something of an authority in the dairy business, as a general farmer and as a successful breeder of high grade stock, and in every way is a representative citizen of Amherst Township, Portage County. His people were among the earliest settlers of Stevens Point and there he passed his earlier years.

Edward Perry Tobie was born in Portage County, Wisconsin, September 5, 1874. His parents were Edward Dominic and Mary (Hopkins) Tobie, the former of whom was born at Buffalo, New York, September 14, 1849, and died January 30, 1884. The paternal grandparents were Dominic and Elizabeth (Gottry) Tobie, the former of whom was born in France, June 7, 1807, and died at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, October 7, 1868. The latter was born in Germany, and they were married in Europe and when they came to the United States settled first in Buffalo, where Mr. Tobie operated a hotel until removal was made to Stevens Point, where both he and wife subsequently died. They had but one child, Edward Dominic.

Edward Dominic Tobie was educated in the parochial schools and remained a faithful Catholic all his life. As a young man he carried on a teaming business in Stevens Point, but after his marriage moved to a farm in Amherst Township and resided there until his death at the age of thirty-four years. In addition to attending to his farm he had continued his teaming business and had teams working on the grading of the Wisconsin Central Railroad, now the Soo Line, and additionally operated a threshing outfit. He was an active, forceful man, and was widely known and respected. He married Mary Hopkins, who was born at Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Her father, Perry Commodore Hopkins, was born at Detroit, Michigan, and came to Portage County in 1855 with his parents, Sherman and Miranda (Thornton) Hopkins. Both father and son served in the Civil war, Sherman Hopkins, who lived to the age of ninety-four years, serving as a drum major. Perry C. Hopkins was a stone mason and brick layer by trade and worked as such at Stevens Point until he entered the Civil war as a member of Company E, Thirty-Seventh Wisconsin Infantry. He lived to return home but the mental shock he had received in the war left him a little unbalanced and he lived afterward more or less retired. He spent two years at Appleton and then moved to Amherst and there he died.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dominic Tobie were the parents of five children, namely: Lewis, who is connected with the Jackson Flour Mill at Amherst; Elizabeth, who is deceased, was the wife of J. H. Durkee; Edward Perry; Mary, who is the wife of Lewis Miller; and Arthur, who is a farmer in Amherst Township.

Edward Perry Tobie attended the parochial school in Stevens Point and for a short time before he began to operate the home farm he had public school advantages. Although but eighteen years old when he took charge of the farm, he carried on the various industries profitably and remained in charge for six years. In 1899 he went to Clark County, Wisconsin, and followed farming in the vicinity of Thorp for five years, after which he returned to Portage County and bought the old Herman Hoffman farm which is favorably situated in Amherst Township, right on the edge of the prospering village. Mr. Tobie has 130 acres. He breeds full-blood Jersey cattle and devotes much of his land to growing potatoes, and has extensive dairy interests.

Mr. Tobie was married June 2, 1897, to Miss Nettie Hoffman, who

is a daughter of Herman Hoffman, for many years a prominent farmer of this section. Mr. and Mrs. Tobie are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Always interested in movements for the general welfare, Mr. Tobie has frequently demonstrated his public spirit, and has been particularly concerned in local enterprises that aim to be beneficial to the farming community, and through that medium to the country at large. He is secretary of the Amherst Potato Growers' Association, and also secretary of the Amherst Percheron Association.

**HENRY STOLTENBERG.** One of the well-to-do merchants of the thriving little community of Nelsonville is Henry Stoltenberg, who is now enjoying a prosperous patronage in the handling of farming implements. Mr. Stoltenberg, who has passed his entire life in this community, where his parents were pioneers, was during a long period engaged in the blacksmith business, and has also been an important factor in civic life, having been one of the incorporators of the village of Nelsonville and village clerk from the time of its founding until the spring of 1917.

Henry Stoltenberg was born May 31, 1865, at a point now included in the Village of Nelsonville, Portage County, Wisconsin, and is a son of Charles and Anna Stoltenberg. His father was born in Germany and after the death of the paternal grandparents immigrated to the United States as a single man and during the early '50s settled in Portage County. His marriage occurred at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, his bride being a native of Norway, who had come to this country alone, but whose mother followed her daughter to the United States after the death of the father. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stoltenberg took up a grant of land including property now within the village limits of Nelsonville, settled in the woods, and passed the remainder of their lives in the clearing of the land and the cultivation and development of a farm. Both rounded out successful and useful lives and when they died owned a valuable property which had been improved solely through their efforts and those of their children. They were honest and honorable people who were highly esteemed by their neighbors and whose influence for good was felt in the community. They had five sons and two daughters: John C.; Anna, who is now Mrs. Charles Hankey; Carl M., who died at the age of twenty-six years; Andrew; Henry; Louisa, who died when twenty-six years of age; and Edward W.

Henry Stoltenberg received his education in the district schools of his home community and was reared on the home farm. As a youth he decided against agriculture as a vocation, preferring instead the trade of blacksmith, which he learned under his elder brother, John, at Nelsonville. He was in his brother's employ for something like twelve years, and then embarked in business on his own account, successfully conducting a blacksmith shop from 1894 until 1906, when he disposed of his interests and temporarily retired from active affairs. For three years he lived more or less quietly while seeking a good opening, and about 1909 again engaged in business, this time as the proprietor of an implement business. He has since built up an excellent trade among the farmers of this part of the county, and is now the owner of a well-equipped store, with a complete stock of the latest



implements and machinery pertaining to his trade. Mr. Stoltenberg bears an excellent reputation in business circles as a man of integrity and one who lives up to all his engagements, and his success, self-attained, has been an honorable one. As a man of progressive views, always ready to support movements making for advancement and the general welfare, he was one of the incorporators of the Village of Nelsonville, and at the same time was made village clerk. This office he filled with ability and to the entire satisfaction of his fellow-citizens, remaining as the incumbent until the spring of 1917.

In 1896 Mr. Stoltenberg was married to Miss Hannah Moen, who was born in Amherst Township, Portage County, daughter of J. O. Moen, who was an early settler here and who has for some years been a resident of Rhinelander. Mr. and Mrs. Stoltenberg are the parents of three children: Alice M., Jerome C. and Howard Maynard.

RALPH DOANE, of Stockton Township, is counted as one of the old timers of Portage County, having first identified himself with this locality about thirty-five years ago. He is a man of interesting experience and accomplishment, and is one of the stalwart and progressive farmers of his present home township.

Mr. Doane represents some of the oldest families in American history. He was born in Bradford County, Pennsylvania, September 23, 1858, a son of Price and Prudence (Bradford) Doane. His father was born in Windham Township of Bradford County in 1829, while the mother was born in the same county in 1830. Price Doane spent his life in that county and died in 1907. The widowed mother passed away in June, 1916. She was a very vigorous old lady and when eighty-five years of age she traveled alone to visit her son in Portage County. Both parents had visited in this county and were well known to a number of its local residents. The Doane family ancestry goes back to Daniel Doane, who arrived in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, as early as 1629. In the maternal line the Bradfords were among the first settlers of Bradford County, Pennsylvania. Practically all of that name were lumbermen, and Price Doane was also a lumberman as well as a farmer. He was an old time river man on the Susquehanna River. In politics he was strictly independent, and he and his wife worshipped in the Baptist Church. Their home locality was known as Doanetown, named in honor of the family. Price Doane and wife had ten children: Minnie; Rufus, who died at the age of sixteen; Jasper, who is an extensive farmer and wheat grower in the State of Washington; Lottie, of Pennsylvania; Ralph; Adelia, wife of Charles Damerest, of Michigan; Stella, who died in 1893; Ira, who died October 1, 1917; Perry, of Wausau, Wisconsin; and Cary, who for many years lived in Stevens Point, but died at his old home in Pennsylvania. Cary had three sons, Arthur, Ray, a railway brakeman, and George. The son Arthur is now in France with the American army.

Mr. Ralph Doane grew up in his native Township of Pennsylvania, attended the country schools and the high school at Rome, and he also had abundance of opportunity to acquaint himself with the practical details of the home farm. At the age of eighteen he began teaching and taught four years.

In April, 1882, Mr. Doane came to Ogdensburg, Wisconsin, went from there to Antigo, where he spent a year, and on April 1, 1883,

established himself in Portage County at Arnott, where he and a brother bought and operated in partnership a store. Mr. Doane remained here as a merchant for six years, after which he sold out to his brother and returning to Bradford County, Pennsylvania, handled the old homestead farm for six years, teaching school during the winter sessions. While there he had charge of the school which he had attended as a boy. In the spring of 1893 he was back in Portage County, but only for a brief season. One of his experiences that year was a deer hunt in Marathon County and he shot three deer on the trip. The following winter he again taught school in Pennsylvania, but in the spring of 1894 permanently located in Portage County. For five years he rented a farm in Stockton Township and in the spring of 1900 came to his present place, a well developed farm of eighty acres. He has done much to improve this land and is conducting it as a general farming proposition. Mr. Doane is also a carpenter, and that trade has proved invaluable to him in improving his own farm and also to others. He is a member of a local shooting club, and hunting is his favorite diversion.

Mr. Doane was for fifteen years a member of the school board in districts No. 5 and No. 4, and has exerted himself at every opportunity to secure better school advantages. He has also served as township assessor. Politically he votes as an independent. Mr. Doane is a splendid example of a total abstainer, having never used liquor in any form and not even tobacco. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

April 12, 1885, in Portage County, he married Miss Theresa Sklitzky. Mrs. Doane was born in Austria, August 12, 1850, daughter of the late George Sklitzky, who was one of the pioneer settlers of Portage County. Mr. and Mrs. Doane have two children: Grace and Clarence. Grace is the wife of Edgar Engan of St. Paul, Minnesota, and they have one child, Myron, aged three years. Clarence, who helps run the home farm, married Mary Steinke, of Arnott. She was born in Stockton Township, daughter of Samuel Steinke, one of the early settlers here. Clarence Doane and wife have one daughter, Myrna, who is three years old.

GEORGE SKALSKI. Many lives have entered into the making of Portage County, and none of them more worthy to be considered than that of the late George Skalski, who came here soon after the pioneer period and did his worthy part both as a farmer, business man and in the rearing and training of a family of useful sons and daughters, some of whom are very active in the business life of Stevens Point.

George Skalski was born in German Poland in April, 1853. His father died in the old country and his mother, Josephine Skalski, came to America and died in Stevens Point at the advanced age of ninety-seven. George Skalski was twenty years of age when in 1873 he immigrated to America and after about three years of residence at Dunkirk, New York, came on to Wisconsin and settled in Stevens Point. Later he bought a farm in Hull Township, and from that finally retired and entered the grocery business at Stevens Point, in partnership with Joseph Kuchnowski. After three years as a merchant he returned to the farm, and died there July 5, 1898. He was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church.

In 1881 George Skalski married Miss Rose Pijanowski. She was born in Poland in 1863, daughter of Stephen Pijanowski, who died in his native land in 1869. Her mother then married John Bloch and in 1873 the family came to America, locating at Stevens Point. Mr. and Mrs. John Bloch are still living at the county seat, the former about seventy-eight and the latter eighty years of age. Mrs. Skalski was one of four children, and the only one now living. Her mother by her second marriage had one son, now deceased, and also an adopted son, John, a resident of Milwaukee.

To Mr. and Mrs. Skalski were born a family of eleven children. John, the oldest, married Helen Polashek and has two children, Ambrose and Raymond. Frank, who died June 14, 1917, married Catherine King and left one son, Chester. Peter, the third son, is still at home. Stephen has a garage business at Golden Valley, North Dakota. Albert is one of the active men in the Skalski Company, a thriving mercantile business at Stevens Point, at 219 Clark Street, where he established the business March 30, 1908. Michael is also a member of the Skalski Company, and by his marriage to Rose Laszewski has a son, Richard. Stanley, a member of the Skalski Company, married Johanna Borchard. Marie, living at home with her mother, is a member of the Skalski Company. Three other children, all of whom died young, were named Adam, Joseph and Nicholas.

Mrs. Skalski is actively interested in the Skalski Company. This company owns the business building and a dwelling back of the store, and also the home in which Mrs. Skalski resides at 531 Normal Avenue.

CASPER MONROE STOLTENBERG belongs to that live and energetic younger group of Portage County agriculturists who are now assuming and bearing with credit to themselves and to the county the burdens and responsibilities of farm management. Mr. Stoltenberg is member of an old and well known family of Portage County and his own work and character reflect honor upon the name.

He was born in the Village of Nelsonville in Portage County in 1887, a son of John C. Stoltenberg. He attended the public schools of his native town, and for a short time was manager of the local creamery at Casmere and later at Sharon. From that he took up farming in New Hope Township and is now operator of the Hans Larson farm in that locality.

In 1901 he married Miss Mabel Larson, daughter of Hans Larson. Three children have been born to their marriage: Vivian Ruth, Harvey Maynard and Harvey Maynard. The first Harvey Maynard died in infancy. The family are members of the old New Hope Lutheran Church. Mr. Stoltenberg is now serving as a member of the school board and so far as his business duties permit has shown much interest in local affairs.

Hans Larson, father of Mrs. Stoltenberg, was born in Norway January 8, 1849, a son of Lars and Marian (Christopherson) Halvorson. His parents spent all their lives in Norway, where his father was an industrious farmer. In their family were eight children: Christopher, deceased; Carolina, deceased; Hans; Christopher; Carolina and Anna, both deceased; George; and Andrew.

Hans Larson acquired his early education in Norway and grew up

an industrious youth. In 1873 he came to America and within a few weeks located at Stevens Point, where he found employment in a saw mill and at other jobs. He was hard working, thrifty, looked ahead for the future and in 1895 he was able to buy eighty acres in New Hope Township. He moved to that land in 1896 and farmed it until 1899. In the latter year he moved to his present farm of eighty acres, also in New Hope Township, and conducted it as a general farming proposition for a number of years, but has now turned over its active management to his son-in-law, Mr. Stoltenberg. He helped organize the Garfield Creamery and has been one of the leaders in community affairs.

In 1876 Mr. Larson married Miss Johanna Engum. She was born in Norway, daughter of John and Anna (Halvorson) Engum. Her parents came to America in 1857 and in the same year located in New Hope Township, where they were among the very first settlers. They did their part in clearing away a portion of the wilderness, establishing a home, and setting an example of industry to those who came after them. Mrs. Hans Larson died in 1907. She was the mother of three children: Jonas Ludwig, living in Minnesota; Mrs. Mabel Stoltenberg; and Elmer Richards, who is now serving in the United States Navy. Hans Larson served several terms as a side supervisor in New Hope Township.

CARL S. ORTHMAN is considered among his friends and associates as something of a genius in the field of banking. He has been connected with banking institutions from boyhood, and his capability has enabled him to play an effective and important part in a number of banks in this section of Wisconsin. Mr. Orthman is at present cashier of the Citizens National Bank of Stevens Point.

He was born at Portage, Wisconsin, November 6, 1883, a son of H. W. and Elizabeth (Sherman) Orthman. His parents were also natives of Portage and still live there, his father a general merchant. His father served as captain of Company F, Third Regiment of Wisconsin in the Spanish-American war. There were four children in the family: Carl S., Grace, Lillian and Bessie.

Carl S. Orthman graduated in 1900 from the Plainfield High School, and practically from that time to the present his work and experience have been in banks. He spent four years in Plainfield, graduating from school there before entering the Plainfield Bank. Until 1902 he was with his father, and then became bookkeeper of the Washara County Bank at Plainfield. From there he came to Stevens Point as assistant cashier of the First National Bank. In 1906 Mr. Orthman utilized his experience in the organization of different banks throughout this section of Wisconsin, and spent two years in organizing and setting the banking machinery into operation. After that he was vice president of the Arnott State Bank, Arnott, Wisconsin, and in 1911 came into the Citizens National Bank of Stevens Point as assistant cashier, and since 1914 has been its cashier.

In 1909 Mr. Orthman married Miss Elizabeth Ceary, of Stevens Point, daughter of John Ceary, an honored pioneer merchant and tailor of this city. They have two children, Elizabeth and Charles.

Mr. Orthman is past president of the Stevens Point Business Men's Association and is state treasurer of the Wisconsin Association



A handwritten signature or scribble in black ink. It features a large, loopy oval shape at the top, with a horizontal line extending from its left side. Below this, there are several overlapping loops and a final flourish that ends in a small hook.

of Commercial Executives. He is active in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, is treasurer of his lodge, and a member of the Knights of Pythias. At the present time he is captain of Company M, Ninth Regiment, Wisconsin State Guards, and stationed at Stevens Point.

**NICK DZWONKOWSKI.** Taking up his task as a pioneer farmer fully half a century ago, Nick Dzwonkowski has been prospered for above the average, has made his industry count for much both to himself and to his community, and has worthily earned his retirement and the comforts and esteem which he enjoys in his present home community in Sharon Township.

He was born in Poland September 5, 1844, a son of Christian and Josephine Dzwonkowski. He lived in his native land fifteen years, attended school there, and in 1859 came with his parents to Portage County. The family were among the earliest to locate in this county and the father took a homestead of eighty acres in section 31 of Sharon Township. Here they lived, endured the privations of pioneer existence, and the father passed away at the old home in 1885, aged seventy years. The mother lived a remarkable span of years, and had reached the century mark of her existence at the time of her death on December 1, 1913. Mr. Nick Dzwonkowski was the only son of his parents and his two sisters were named Pauline and Frances.

From the time he was brought to Portage County he was practiced and trained in the work of clearing away the woods, cultivating the heavy virgin soil and with years of manhood upon him he bought as his first farm forty acres adjoining the old homestead in section 31. Later he acquired 120 acres in section 28. When this was sold he moved to Stockton Township and bought 160 acres a mile south of Custer. Later he made another transfer, selling this farm and in 1895 buying the place he now owns near Ellis. He has a model farm of seventy acres, and also owns forty acres of woodland in Sharon Township. Mr. Dzwonkowski is now retired from the heavy responsibilities of farming. He is a democrat in politics, and at one time served as assessor two years and as township chairman one year.

In 1864 he married Josephine Lipska. She was born in Poland in 1836 and died at the old home in Sharon Township December 1, 1916, aged eighty years. She became the mother of eight children: Leo, Bernard and Rosa, deceased; Mary, John, Frances, Martha and Helen. The daughter Helen remains at home and keeps house for her father. The family are all members of the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia.

**ISAIAH ALTENBURG** is one of the prominent old time citizens of Portage County and member of a family that has been identified with this section of the state since pioneer times.

He is a son of John Altenburg and was born in Chautauqua County, New York, April 30, 1841. He came to Portage County with his parents and after getting a limited school education went to work in the woods and in the lumber industry. On August 1, 1861, when a little past twenty years of age, he enlisted in Company G of the Seventh Wisconsin Infantry. For three months he was in service within the state and after that spent three years in the Army of the Potomac and was in many of the celebrated battles of the war. He was granted his

honorable discharge in the fall of 1864 and then returned to Portage County and for several years was in the employ of the Wisconsin Central Railway. About 1874 Mr. Altenburg bought forty acres of land in Buena Township and in that locality has lived ever since. He cleared his land, which was part of the original property owned by his father. He also acquired 160 acres in Plover Township and made a farm of that. Mr. Altenburg has lived retired now for about eight years. He is a republican voter and in religious views is liberal. November 24, 1864, soon after his return from the army, he married Phoebe Noyes. Mrs. Altenburg was born in Iowa March 9, 1846, daughter of William and Philetta Noyes, both natives of New York State and early settlers in Iowa. Her father went out to California in 1852 and no report ever came back to his family of him. The mother of Mrs. Altenburg spent her last days at Plover. Mr. and Mrs. Altenburg are the parents of four children, Fred, who died at the age of two years; Frank, Robert and Carl W. Mr. Altenburg has a number of grandchildren and even some great-grandchildren. His son Frank, a farmer in Plover Township, married Ida Langton and their children are: Mabel, who married Harry Caulkins, their family consisting of Donald, Dorothy, Mabel and Elizabeth; Alta, wife of Clarence Ammo, of Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, and they have one child, Russell; and Kenneth, at home. Robert Altenburg, the second son of Mr. Altenburg, is a farmer and after three years spent in the West returned home and for the past ten years has operated on a farm of eighty acres and also owns another forty acres. He married Myra Taylor, daughter of Fred Taylor, of a well-known Portage County family, and they have one child, Vernon. Carl W., the youngest of the family, lives in Montana and owns a cattle ranch. He married Mollie Hogie and their one child is named Ronald.

**JAMES A. ALTENBURG.** For over fifty years James A. Altenburg has been a resident of Portage County, and it has been his privilege to witness and bear a part in its remarkable development. He is one of several who have borne the name Altenburg with credit and honor in this part of Wisconsin, and no list of pioneers of Portage County would be complete without extended reference to this family.

While such references will be found on other pages, it is appropriate to devote a few paragraphs here to the career of James A. Altenburg, who was born in Cattaraugus County, New York, November 28, 1844, a son of John and Isabel (Arthur) Altenburg. Up to the age of twelve years he lived in New York and had the advantages of the common schools. He was with the family when it arrived in Portage County October 16, 1856. Here he continued to attend the pioneer schools for a few terms, and the last teacher he had was Addie Walker, afterwards Mrs. Henry Kern and now deceased. Mr. Altenburg lived at home with his parents until past his majority, but in the meantime had borne a man's part on the farm, also in the lumber woods and on the river. He followed the river for a long period of years. Altogether he made nineteen trips as a riverman with logs and lumber, and sixteen of those trips covered the long distance from Stevens Point to St. Louis. As a very young man he acquired a farm in Buena Vista Township, but later sold that and bought forty acres in Marathon County, though he never occupied that as a farm. For

nine years he lived in Knowlton Township of Marathon County, just over the line from Portage County, and kept a boarding house there seven years. In 1889 Mr. Altenburg came to Stevens Point and bought the home at which he now resides, 501 Dixon Street. Here for about seventeen years he and his wife conducted a boarding establishment, and since then he has been chiefly employed in the local cemetery. Mr. Altenburg is a republican, but has never sought any office and is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

On November 11, 1866, Mr. Altenburg married Miss Jennie Mulkins. November 11, 1916, just fifty years later, this worthy couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in the presence of family and friends. All who attended that celebration remarked how far the celebrants belied their actual age, and their many well wishers expressed the hope and really anticipate that they will be privileged to celebrate their sixtieth anniversary. Mrs. Altenburg was born in New York December 25, 1848, a daughter of Joseph and Samantha (Uptagrove) Mulkins. Her parents were New Englanders, moved to New York, and from there came to the wilds of Portage County, Wisconsin, as early as 1851, locating in Buena Vista Township and accommodating themselves to the rude comforts of a log cabin home, and all the loneliness which life in this county at that time implied. Joseph Mulkins was a splendid type of the pioneer, cleared his land, put up good buildings, and besides showing his faithfulness to his family and his immediate community he also proved a loyal and patriotic citizen, since in 1861 he responded to the call for men to put down the rebellion and enlisted in the Eighteenth Wisconsin Regiment. He served about two years and was finally discharged on account of illness. After the war he followed farming on his old homestead until his death. His widow passed away in 1893, at the age of sixty-nine. The children of the Mulkins family were: William, also a soldier in the Civil war; Margaret; Joseph, who died in infancy; Lucinda; Jennie; George; David; John; Isaiah and Leslie. In politics Mr. Mulkins was a republican and was active in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Altenburg have had three children, Arthur, Frederick, who died in infancy, and Guisy Irvin. The son Arthur was born April 7, 1868, was educated in the public schools of Portage County and has spent his active career as a successful farmer, his home being near Knowlton in Marathon County. He married Theckla Neice, and all their family of eight children are living, named Jennie, Ethel, Helen, James, Glen, Clayton, Forest and Merrill. The granddaughters Jennie and Helen both lived with Mr. and Mrs. Altenburg while completing their education. Jennie is a graduate of the State Normal School of Stevens Point and is now teaching, while Helen is a member of the class of 1918. The younger child of Mr. and Mrs. Altenburg, Guisy Irvin, born August 2, 1875, was educated in the common schools and for fourteen years was connected with the H. D. McCulloch Company and for the last four years has been with the Gee & Maconie Bakery Company. He married Agnes Parks and their four children, all living, are Worth, Marjorie, Frederick and Bernice.

**WORTH ALTENBURG.** Representing a family that has long and favorably been known in Portage County, Worth Altenburg is now



living practically retired with the leisure accumulated by the hard work and good management of his earlier years in Plover Township.

He was born in Cattaraugus County, New York, August 28, 1850, son of John and Isabel Altenburg. He was six years of age when brought to Portage County, and here he grew up, getting his education in the local schools of that time. As a young man he worked in the woods and knows every phase of the old time lumber industry, from logging in the forests to running the river in the spring and summer.

In 1884 Mr. Altenburg made his first purchase of farm lands, consisting of forty acres in section 26, Plover Township. His possessions have grown until they are now measured by two hundred forty acres, all well improved and with good buildings, and the farm is devoted to general crops and stock.

Mr. Altenburg is a republican, served as supervisor four years and for many years was clerk of the school board and has always given much of his time to the cause of education. He and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church.

October 30, 1878, he married Miss Anna Barker, who was born in Buena Vista Township of Portage County April 3, 1859, daughter of Charles and Mary Jane (Newby) Barker. Her father was an old time settler of Portage County and died here in 1865, when about thirty-eight years old. His widow married again and died in 1912, aged seventy-two. Mr. and Mrs. Altenburg have one son, Earl, who was born October 22, 1879, was educated in the Stevens Point High School, and when just ready and qualified to take up the serious duties of life died on January 7, 1900.

**MOSES P. LEARY.** The following is a brief record of a family that has been identified with Portage County for more than half a century, in fact from early pioneer times, and its members have always given a good account of themselves whether engaged in the heavy work of clearing their allotted share of the wilderness or as prosperous and thrifty farmers of later times, as good citizens, worthy members of the community, and upholders of religious and moral influences everywhere.

While Moses P. Leary was born in this county and is a man now only in middle life, he did his part in the pioneer work of developing a tract of wild land into an improved farm, and he now owns and manages that farm place in Belmont Township. He was born in Stockton Township November 27, 1863, a son of John and Catherine (Donaldson) Leary. His father was a native of Canada and his mother of Glasgow, Scotland. John Leary was a son of Moses Leary, who came from his native Ireland when about thirteen years old in company with an uncle to Canada. He grew up and married in the Dominion, his wife being Mary Leary, and about 1850 they came to Wisconsin and settled in Stockton Township. Moses Leary died here in advanced years, about 1875, having survived his wife. His children were named Timothy, John, William and Mary.

John Leary had all his schooling in Canada and as a boy there he worked around canals, building locks. He came to Portage County with his parents, and after that was a farmer. He secured eighty acres of the old homestead of his father and altogether owned 160 acres

in Stockton Township. He died on that farm in 1896, when past seventy years of age. His wife passed away in 1890, at the age of sixty-three. Their six children are still living, named Margaret, William, Mary, Moses P., James Nicholas and Rosannah. The father of these children was a democrat without office aspirations and was a member of the Catholic Church.

Moses P. Leary grew up on the old homestead and was educated in public schools. Much of the physical strength and the mental resourcefulness he has used in his farming were developed through the active work of the woods and lumber camps, where he spent about five winters. For nine years he was also a boilermaker in railroad shops. During that time he lived at Stevens Point, Milwaukee and Waukesha. In 1894 Mr. Leary bought his present farm in Belmont Township, comprising 205 acres. While there were a number of well improved and well cultivated farms in the neighborhood this particular tract of land had in a way been overlooked, and practically none of it was at that time ready for cultivation. The task of clearing and converting the land to a good farm has been well achieved by Mr. Leary and some of the early work in that line he accomplished with two yoke of cattle. He now has a group of substantial buildings, and is a contributor to the dairy industry of the county, having a herd of grade Holstein cattle headed by a thoroughbred sire. In politics he is a democrat, has served for some years as director of the schools, and is a member of the Catholic Church.

In September, 1884, Mr. Leary married Miss Alice Stinson. She was born in Belmont Township in 1864, a daughter of Patrick and Eliza (Bernard) Stinson, a family of early settlers in Belmont Township. Her parents were both born in Ireland, her father in 1828 and her mother in 1829. Patrick Stinson at the age of fourteen accompanied an uncle to America. He grew up and married in New York State and came to Belmont Township in 1860. For a short time he rented land, and then bought his first property of fifty-five acres. Subsequently he bought forty acres and then another similar tract, and after developing this farm sold out and lived in Stevens Point about five years. Later he traded property in the city for a farm of eighty acres that is now owned by his son Edward D. About 1892 Patrick Stinson moved to Waupaca and died there May 26, 1913. Mrs. Leary's mother died at the old home farm July 10, 1877. Patrick Stinson and wife had four children: Fannie, born July 15, 1857, now married and living at Eau Claire, Wisconsin; Edward D., born August 1, 1861, a farmer in Belmont Township; Henry, who was born in Belmont Township and now lives in Lanark Township; and Alice, Mrs. Leary. Her mother married for her first husband James Cavanaugh and they had a son, James, who now lives with his half-brother Edward. Mrs. Leary's father was an active republican. He was an honored soldier of the Civil war, serving about nine months in Company I of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry. For many years he was affiliated with the Grand Army Post and in religion he was a Catholic.

Mr. and Mrs. Leary have a large family of twelve children, all living, and all but the oldest still constitute an unbroken and happy family circle. Their names in order of birth are Myron, John, Hugh, Catherine, Earl, Moses, Loretta, Genevieve, Clarence, Berdine, Merle

and Alice. Myron now lives at Los Angeles, California, and by his marriage to Grace Young has one child, Veronia.

LOUIS PETERSON. No one class of people has done more to develop the original resources and the modern business affairs of Portage County than those who are directly native of or of Norwegian parentage. One of the sturdy and virile men of this stock, an ambitious and successful farmer in New Hope Township, is Louis Peterson.

Mr. Peterson was born in that township, a son of Peter and Guri (Olsdatter) Gunderson. His paternal grandparents were Gunder and Ronag (Paulsdatter) Johnson. They left Norway with their family and emigrated to America in 1861, locating at once in New Hope Township, where they bought a tract of raw land. The first buildings on that land were put up by Gunder Johnson and his subsequent efforts were devoted to clearing and improving and in the course of time he had a valuable farm. His first place was forty acres, but before his death he increased this to 160 acres.

The only child of these worthy pioneers was Peter Gunderson, who was born in Norway in 1845 and was sixteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to America. In the meantime he had obtained all the education he ever received from books in the schools of the old country, and on locating in Portage County he bore an active share in the labors connected with the clearing and improvement of the farm. As the only son and child he inherited the place and is still owner of it. Many changes have been made in its general appearance, including the erection of modern buildings, and he continued to cultivate and manage its resources until about 1909, when he came to live with his son Louis Peterson. Peter Gunderson was one of the men who assisted in organizing the old New Hope Lutheran Church. He married Miss Guri Olsdatter, a native of Norway, where her parents, farmers, spent all their lives. Her father was Ole Olson. She was one of their four children. Mrs. Peter Gunderson came to America alone in 1863 and first lived at Neenah, Wisconsin. The three children of Peter Gunderson and wife were: Louis; Gilbert, who lives on his father's farm; and Paulina, wife of Peter Engum, of New Hope Township. Peter Gunderson has lived the life of an honored citizen, has served as township supervisor, and was one of the local citizens who promoted the New Hope Butter and Cheese Association.

It will be noted that the different generations of this family have followed the Norwegian custom of adapting the family name to the first or Christian name of the father, so that Mr. Louis Peterson is a son of Peter Gunderson and a grandson of Gunder Johnson. However, Mr. Peterson's children follow the American custom and are Petersons.

Louis Peterson was born in Portage County, in New Hope Township, March 2, 1869. He grew up here in a country community, attended the local schools, and after some varied employment and experience came to his present farm, where he is owner of eighty acres. He has had his home here continuously for twenty-six years, and the land has not only responded to his efforts at cultivation but the substantial building improvements are the work of his hands or of his earnings. Mr. Peterson also became one of the organizers of the New Hope Butter and Cheese Association and is bearing his full share

of responsibilities as one of the prosperous agriculturists of the section.

In 1891 he married Miss Mary Peterson, a native of Norway and a daughter of Peter Jacobson. Their three living children are Pearl, Morris and Clarence, and one child, Palma, is deceased.

DAVID RATH. Portage County has profited by the stable citizenship and faithful industry of the Rath family since the beginning of the '70s. Practically all bearing the name here have been interested in agriculture, but their services have been extended also to politics, religion, education and society. Prominent among those who have had a part in the development and advancement of the southern part of the county is found David Rath, who after many years passed in successful agricultural operations in Almond Township is now living in comfortable retirement in the village of that name. He has had a long and useful career and his life work has been crowned with the kind of success that can only be won through industry and integrity.

David Rath was born May 29, 1852, in Germany, and is a son of George and Katrina Rath, natives of that country. The father was a tailor by trade and an honorable tradesman of his home community, but was in modest circumstances. However, he was content to pass his life among the surroundings in the midst of which he had been born and neither he nor his good wife ever left their native soil. They were the parents of seven children, as follows: George, Jacob, John and Michael, the last named of whom fought as a soldier during the Franco-Prussian war, and all now deceased; Charles, who is engaged in farming in Almond Township; Andrew, who is a resident of Almond; and David, of this notice.

David Rath received the advantages of a public school education in his native country, and the occupations of his youth were varied in character. He had learned to be thrifty and careful with his earnings, and when he was but nineteen years of age bid farewell to the country of his birth and in due time arrived at New York City, from whence he made his way across the country to Portage County, Wisconsin, where he secured eighty acres of land. For this first purchase he paid \$500, and on this Almond Township land the young immigrant began operations. It was some time before he had fully learned how to make his labors count for the most, but he was filled with youthful spirit, strength and determination to win, and finally he had his land cleared and under cultivation, a task in which he was assisted by his brother. When he was financially able he added to his holdings from time to time and eventually accumulated 200 acres, all located on section 21, Almond Township. He became an excellent farmer and his industrious labors finally placed him in a position of independence so that it was unnecessary for him to continue active work, and he sold his farm to his son Edward, who now operates it. At that time he purchased a house and lot for his own use at Almond, as well as twelve additional residential plots, and since then has been a resident of this village, where he is known as a good and public-spirited citizen. During his residence on the farm he contributed to the up-building of the community by the erection of good structures and the installing of modern improvements.

Mr. Rath was married in 1878 to Miss Christiana Mehne, who was born in Germany and came to the United States as a child of five years, and to this union there have been born seven children: Mrs.

Lizzie Whitman; Edward, who is engaged in farming the property formerly owned by his father; John, who operates a draying business at Almond; Mrs. Clara Winfield; Mrs. Loretta Minart; Charlotta, a resident of Madison; and Cora, who resides at home with her parents. Mr. Rath is a citizen who supports all beneficial movements, and has done much in the way of road building at Almond.

ANTON MASLOWSKI is a native of Poland, but has lived in Portage County for thirty-five years, his affairs have been greatly prospered, and he is owner and proprietor of one of the well cultivated and managed farms of Sharon Township. Mr. Maslowski is a fine type of American citizen and two of his sons are now with the American forces fighting for the sake of a new type of liberty in the world.

Mr. Maslowski was born in Poland December 14, 1858, son of Charles and Ludwika Maslowski. His parents came to Portage County in 1881 and settled in Sharon Township, adjoining land on which Anton now lives. Later they sold that and bought another small place in Sharon Township, where the father died in 1892, at the age of seventy-seven years. The widowed mother is now living in Stevens Point at the venerable age of ninety-six. They were members of the Polish Catholic Church. In their family were eight children: Herman, who is now in Poland; John, of Stevens Point; Amelia; Adelia, deceased; Julia; Anton; Carl and Polly.

Anton Maslowski grew up in his native land, was educated there, and after coming to Portage County bought in 1883 forty acres as the nucleus of his present home in Sharon Township. As his efforts have been prospered he has acquired other land until he now owns 200 acres in his home farm and also some of the marsh land in Dewey Township. He has cleared up a great deal of land in this county, and his farm reflects his good management in the appearance of the buildings and the close cultivation of the fields. He is a democrat and for six years served as treasurer of his local school board. He and his family are members of the Polish Catholic Church.

In 1886 he married Miss Helen Borske. She was born in Poland in 1860, daughter of Julius and Mary Borske. Her father died in the old country and her mother on coming to the United States located in Portage County, where she died in 1895. Mr. and Mrs. Maslowski have children named Barney, Frank, Rosa, Theodore, John, Anton, Tillie, Herman, Marie, Helen, a twin sister of Marie, who died at the age of one year, Lewis, Lucy and Billie.

The two sons who are now in the American army are Theodore and Anton. The former is stationed at Washington while the latter is in training at Camp Grant. The oldest child, Barney, married Victoria Gilmeister, and their children are Addie, Henry, Emil, Stanislaus and Stephen. The daughter Rosa married John Sossong, who died in July, 1916, leaving three children, Raymond, Evelyn and Eleanor. Mrs. Sossong then married Severn Joblonski of Stevens Point. Frank Maslowski married Frances Leba, and their children are Anselme, Irene and Florence. Tillie is the wife of Leo Stanzklich, and is the mother of three children: Emil, Kony and Theresa.

JOHN F. GŁODOWSKI. To no one class of citizens does Portage County owe more of its real development from wilderness conditions than to the people of Polish origin. Many of the most substantial

families of the county, those who have borne the heat and burden of the day in clearing away the woods and tilling the fields, in providing the comforts of civilization, and in promoting all good things in their community, are natives or descendants of that unhappy country whose destiny is now being fought for in the great World war.

A prominent representative of this race is John F. Glodowski, a native of Portage County and member of one of its oldest and most respected families. Mr. Glodowski was born in Sharon Township September 26, 1863, a son of John and Antoinette Glodowski. His parents came to America in 1860, first locating at Winona, Minnesota. His father worked there for a time as a common laborer carrying wheat on to the boats. After about two years he came to Wisconsin and settled in Waupaca County, but in 1863 moved to Sharon Township of this county. Here his means enabled him to acquire a small tract of forty acres of completely wild land in section 12. He made it his home and did something toward clearing it, but six years later sold and bought the 120 acres which was the nucleus of the fine farm of his son John. The parents had their home and center of their activities on this farm for about twenty-five years. In the meantime prosperity in large measure had rewarded the efforts of John Glodowski, Sr., who successively acquired eighty acres in Amherst Township, then 120 acres, later eighty acres, and also seventy acres in Sharon Township and twenty acres in Hope Township. This land is now practically all owned by his children. John Glodowski was a democrat but had no aspirations for public office. Outside his business as a farmer his chief interest was in his church. He was one of the leaders in the Polish Catholic denomination, and assisted in building a church at Ellis, also a church building in that locality which has since been torn down, and gave liberally to the construction of the large church at Polonia, in which he had membership for many years. John Glodowski, Sr., was born June 4, 1832, and died in Amherst October 3, 1902, at the age of seventy years. His wife was born December 18, 1837, and died at the home of her daughter Frances Shulfer in Stockton Township February 27, 1916, when nearly eighty years old. Her father was Albert Kraft, who on coming to America settled in Canada, but a year later came to Berlin, Wisconsin, in 1861 and from there moved to Waupaca County and three years later to Portage County, locating in Sharon Township, where he and his wife died. John Glodowski, Sr., and wife had the following children: Mary, born March 15, 1859, in Poland, married John Kizewski and both are now deceased. Joseph, also a native of Poland, died while the family were coming across the ocean. The third in age is John F. Peter, Martin and Charles all reside in Amherst Township as farmers. Frances is the wife of Frank Shulfer in Stockton Township. Julia married John Carsewski of Buena Vista Township. Leo died March 7, 1884, at the age of ten years.

John F. Glodowski grew up on the old homestead in Sharon Township and acquired his education in the parochial and public schools. For a short time he was also a student in the Oshkosh High School. To the vocation for which he was trained as a boy he has given the best years of his life and is owner and proprietor of one of the high grade farms in Sharon Township. The 120 acres which he acquired from his father has since been increased by the purchase of fifteen acres and later twenty acres, so that his total holdings now aggregate

155 acres. Many modern improvements have been made on the farm and as a stock man he specializes in good Holstein cattle.

Mr. Glodowski's record includes much service to his community. For thirty years he has been clerk of his school board, and in 1918 was elected supervisor and chairman of the township board. He is a democrat and a member of the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia.

February 5, 1884, Mr. Glodowski married Miss Rosa Repinski. She was born in Sharon Township August 26, 1866, daughter of Martin and Julia (Pestcka) Repinski. Her parents were arrivals in Portage County about 1864, and at that time acquired land in Sharon Township, where they lived as industrious farmers for over fifty years. These worthy people died only recently. Her father passed away January 16, 1918, at the age of eighty-nine, and her mother February 11, 1918, aged eighty-seven. In the Repinski family were the following children: Augusta, Frances, Rosa, Anastasia, John and Veronia.

A constant stimulus and encouragement to the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Glodowski in the thirty odd years since their marriage have been the rearing and training of their fine family of children, numbering twelve. The oldest, Veronia, born December 29, 1884, died March 8, 1906, the wife of Joseph Stultz, leaving one child, Emil. Victor, born September 1, 1886, is now representing the family as a soldier with the American armies in France. Felix, born July 1, 1888, married Mary Melanoski, and they had three children, Edmond, deceased, Herbert and Esther. Annie, born July 16, 1891, married William Zinda, and they have a family of three children, Raymond, Harry and Lydia. Julius, born March 25, 1892, married Clair Zabrowski, and their two children are Leonard and Phoebe. Nick, born September 13, 1894, is still at home with his parents. Dominic, born November 20, 1896, died September 13, 1898. Edward, born July 17, 1898, died January 24, 1899. Laura, born July 24, 1900, is still at home. Alois was born July 20, 1902. Benedict was born April 10, 1905, while Regina, the youngest, was born September 26, 1907.

**JOHN JOSEPH GUTH.** Of the men whose ability, industry and forethought have added to the character, wealth and progress of Portage County, none deserves better mention than John J. Guth, of Buena Vista Township. Mr. Guth grew up in this county, learned farming by practice and training under his father, and has proved one of the most progressive of the county's agriculturists.

His birth occurred at Buffalo, New York, April 20, 1881. He is a son of Stanislaus and Mary Guth. His parents were married in Poland in 1866, and in 1879 brought their family to Buffalo, New York, and from there in 1881, shortly after the birth of their son John J., the first of their children born in America, came west to Stevens Point and were residents of that city until 1890. They then moved to a farm in Stockton Township, but after two years returned to Stevens Point, living one year on the South Side and two years on the North Side of the county seat. Stanislaus Guth was a carpenter by trade. His last important work in Stevens Point was the erection in the spring of 1894 of the home of Anthony Prain. On July 15, 1894, the family came to Buena Vista Township and established their home on 120 acres of land. Stanislaus Guth afterward bought another eighty acres, and was successfully identified with farming it until his

death on April 11, 1905, at the age of sixty-six. His widow is still living, now sixty-nine years old. They had a very large family of children, named briefly as follows: Mary, deceased; Vina, an adopted child; Anna; Alexander; George; Mary; John; Peter; Catherine; Antone, deceased; Joseph; Frances; and Frank, who accidentally shot himself December 8, 1910.

John J. Guth has no memory of any other locality than Portage County for the scenes and experiences of his youth and manhood. He attended the parochial schools at Stevens Point. He adopted farming as his regular vocation and in 1906 he bought the place where he now lives in Buena Vista Township. His first purchase was eighty acres. This was land that had not previously been in cultivation, and he broke up most of it and has been responsible for the group of substantial buildings which now furnish home comfort and shelter for his stock and crops. In the spring of 1918 he began the construction of the large barn, 30 by 52 feet, with full basement and with 14-foot posts. Besides his original holding he bought forty-six acres more, giving him 126 acres in his home farm, while altogether his agricultural activities extend to the operation of 206 acres.

Mr. Guth is a republican and a member of the Polish Catholic Church. February 22, 1911, he married Miss Aggie Kristina Meronk, who was born in Stockton Township of this county August 6, 1894, daughter of Frank and Frances Meronk, of Buena Vista Township. Mr. and Mrs. Guth have five children, all living and being carefully trained at home and in school. Their names in order of birth are Frank, Anastasia, Bernice, Stanislaus and John.

CHESTER S. WEBSTER. The following paragraphs tell the names and some of the important details of a family that has meant much to Portage County from pioneer days. The Websters, the Pattersons and the Upthagroves are all names that have a significance in the sturdy citizenship, faithfulness in times of peace as well as in war, and usefulness in every field of work and character.

The success Mr. Chester S. Webster has made as a practical farmer is a result which might be expected of such excellent family stock as he represents. Mr. Webster was born in Almond Township of this county, not far from where he lives at present, on April 11, 1865. He is a son of Heman and Jane (Patterson) Webster.

His paternal grandfather, Linas Webster, was born in the Green Mountain State of Vermont in 1903. In early manhood he moved to Ohio, where he married Sophia Prince, who was born in that state in 1813. It was in the year 1852 that Linas Webster, manifesting again the same spirit of the pioneer which had brought him from New England to Ohio, moved into the wilderness of Wisconsin and located in Portage County. He homesteaded eighty acres now included in the farm of his grandson, Chester Webster. That was the scene of his busy years until his death in 1883. His widow survived him until 1902. Their children were named Almeda Ann, Heman, Julia, Almira and James. The only one now living is James, a resident of North Dakota.

Heman Webster was born in Ohio February 22, 1837. He was therefore fifteen years old when his parents came to Portage County. In the meantime he had attended public school in Ohio and for a brief period was a student in Ashtabula College. In Wisconsin he put his



youthful strength to test as a worker in the lumber woods and became a rafter and log runner down the Wisconsin River. Later he bought eighty acres in Buena Vista Township adjoining his father's farm on the north, and eventually bought out the heirs and acquired the entire estate of 160 acres. He was rated as one of the most progressive farmers in that community until March 30, 1898, when he moved from the country to Stevens Point and retired. He died in that city April 7, 1916. In every way he lived up to the full expression of duties as a local citizen and loyal American. In 1864 he enlisted in Company 1 of the First Wisconsin Cavalry, and saw active service until the close of the war.

Heman Webster married Jane Patterson, who was born in New York State November 23, 1845, and is still living in Stevens Point. Her parents were Alanson and Jane M. (Crouscup) Patterson, the former a native of Cattaraugus County and the latter of Chautauqua County, New York. Alanson Patterson was born May 30, 1810, and his wife August 19, 1818. They married May 7, 1835, and in 1852 they also added their names and work to Portage County as pioneers. They made settlement on 160 acres of government land in Almond Township, and here Alanson Patterson improved a good farm and was a resident until his death on March 8, 1867. His widow died October 25, 1886. Alanson Patterson was a republican in politics, served as a member of the school board and he and his wife were active in the Methodist Episcopal Church. A record of the Patterson children is as follows: Marietta, born October 14, 1838, died January 1, 1844; Marion D., born May 14, 1840, died February 5, 1844; Wayne K., born March 19, 1843, gave his life as a sacrifice to the Union on the field of battle in the Civil war May 12, 1863; Jane A., who became the wife of Heman Webster; Medora, born September 18, 1848, died March 30, 1896; Sherman, born May 4, 1850, died March 27, 1865; William C., born March 24, 1854, died February 5, 1912; and Frank H., born December 24, 1860, is now living in Stevens Point.

Mr. and Mrs. Heman Webster were the parents of three children: Clara, Chester S. and Laura. The daughter Laura was born July 26, 1867, and died August 8, 1884.

Clara Webster, born July 17, 1863, is the wife of Mr. Edgar King, now living at 1116 South Michigan Avenue in Stevens Point. They were married November 13, 1881. Mr. King was born at Loyal in Clark County, Wisconsin, in 1861, and came to Portage County with his parents, Samuel and Emma (McLarney) King. His father was born in New York State January 15, 1836, and his mother on Prince Edward Island March 27, 1844. They married in La Crosse, Wisconsin, January 15, 1850, lived in La Crosse County, also at Loyal and in Clark County, and from that locality Samuel King enlisted in 1864 in the Tenth Wisconsin Regiment and was out as a soldier about twenty months. He then returned to Clark County and in 1871 moved to Portage County, settling on a farm in Almond Township. He also lived for a time at Lodi in Columbia County, and finally retired to Stevens Point, where he died in 1910. His widow is now living with her son Edgar King. In the King family were the following children: Edgar, Frank, Belmont, Lemon, Harlow and Jessie. The last named is now deceased. Edgar King for a number of years was in the rail-road service, also worked for the city, and has been janitor of the

schoolhouse in Stevens Point. He is a republican. He and his wife have four children: Emma King, who married Hilar Scribner and they have an adopted son, William; Laura, wife of Stephen Bushnell; Gertrude, wife of Clifford Parish and mother of one son, David; and Grace, who died in infancy.

Mr. Chester S. Webster grew up on the old farm in Portage County and most of his work and experiences have been identified with the place which he knew as a child and boy. He attended public schools and after his marriage moved to Stevens Point, where for seven years he was a locomotive fireman on the old Wisconsin Central Railway. In 1895 he returned to the farm, and in 1912 he acquired that fine property, and has given it the benefit of his supervision and industry continuously for over twenty years. Under his management some high class modern improvements have been added to the farm. In the line of stock he specializes in grade Holstein cattle. Mr. Webster is a republican voter, has served as township treasurer and for nine years was school clerk. He is affiliated with Plover Lodge No. 76, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, with the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star Chapter.

July 4, 1884, Mr. Webster married Miss Ada Uphagrove. Mrs. Webster was born in New York State January 16, 1865, daughter of Charles and Eliza (Slack) Uphagrove. Her parents came to Portage County in 1878, when she was thirteen years old. They settled on a farm in Buena Vista Township, later moved to Plover and from there to Stevens Point, where her father died December 23, 1909. He was sixty-five years old at the time of his death, having been born January 30, 1844. Her mother, who was born June 1, 1838, died September 12, 1892. Their children were: Ada, Edwin, Fred, Myrtle, Pearl, Elmer and Frank. Mrs. Webster's mother first married Frank Richardson, by whom she had two daughters, Ella and Etta. Mrs. Webster's father was also a soldier of the Union during the Civil war, his enlistment having been with Company A of the One Hundred and Thirty-Seventh New York Infantry. He was also a responsible citizen, a voter of the republican faith, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Webster became the parents of four children. Charles, the oldest died in infancy. Laura is the wife of Clair Eckels and has one son, Webster. Garric is the wife of Henry Steinke, and they live on the Webster farm and they have one son, Almo. The youngest of the family, Clarence, died in infancy.

**THOMAS RILEY.** It frequently occurs that men after many years of successful agricultural effort turn to the city and its manifold business activities for the rounding out of their careers. Thomas Riley was for a long time engaged in productive agricultural work in Portage County, but for over ten years has been a resident of Stevens Point and has built up a large insurance agency at that point. He has been interested in local and mutual insurance companies for a number of years. He still owns some of the productive and valuable farm lands in the territory around Stevens Point.

Mr. Riley was born at Stevens Point October 18, 1857, son of Thomas and Mary (Timlin) Riley. Both parents were natives of Ireland, and came to New York when they were still single. They married in Illinois in 1857, and soon afterward journeyed to the new

country around Stevens Point and as pioneers located on a farm in Plover Township, near McDill. That place they later sold and moved to Lanark Township, where a tract of raw land came under cultivation by the strenuous efforts of Thomas Riley, Sr., and was improved with excellent buildings and furnished the home surroundings in which he spent his last years. He died in October, 1885, when about seventy-six years of age, and his widow passed away February 8, 1893, on the old homestead, at the age of about seventy-five. He was a democrat in politics and the family were Catholics. Their children were: Mary, deceased; Thomas; Anthony; John, deceased; Catherine; and Anna, deceased.

Thomas Riley, Jr., grew up on a Portage County farm, had only the advantages of the public schools, and in early life learned the trade of carpenter. He followed it for about eight years, and then in addition to farming conducted a country store on his farm in Lanark Township. He was in business there for about ten years and then devoted his exclusive attention to farming. He remained on the farm until 1907, since which year he has been at Stevens Point. His home is at 1302 Clark Street. Mr. Riley still owns a fine farm of 214 acres in Lanark and Buena Vista townships, and also has a place of 200 acres in Linwood Township. For twenty years Mr. Riley was connected with the Stockton Fire Insurance Company as treasurer and director, and with home and office at Stevens Point has continued his work in the insurance field and every year has contributed a large volume of business to the organizations he represents. He is a democrat in politics and formerly served as township assessor and for about twenty-five years was a member of the school board. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and is a member of the Catholic Church.

July 3, 1883, Mr. Riley married Miss Ella Heaney, who was born at Pine River, Waushara County, Wisconsin, June 29, 1858. Her parents were John and Sarah (Carroll) Heaney, the former a native of Ireland and brought to New York when a child, and the latter a native of New York State. John Heaney came to Wisconsin and located at Saxville after he reached his majority, and was a Wisconsin farmer for many years. He died December 29, 1912, at the age of seventy-nine, and his widow is still living, aged seventy-seven. Both were Catholics and he was a democrat. In the Heaney family were nine children.

While Mr. Riley has many reasons to be satisfied with his years of accomplishment and experience, he especially rejoices in the children who have grown up in his home and are already proving their usefulness in the world. Sadie, the oldest, born in Lanark Township, was educated in public schools, the Stevens Point Normal, and is now a successful teacher at Almond, Wisconsin. Ella, who had the same educational advantages as her sister, was also a teacher, but is now the wife of Charles Brady, of Bancroft, Wisconsin, and has three children, William, Riley and Charles. The son John, who was educated in the same schools as his older sisters, taught for two years and not long ago left a position with the electric light plant at Racine to enter the National Army. May taught school and is now in the senior class of the Normal School. Catherine has also taught and is a senior of the State Normal at Stevens Point. Bernice is a junior in



*John W. Glennon*

Normal School and Lulu has finished the first year of the Normal course. Mrs. Riley died May 5, 1918.

**JOHN WILLIAM GLENNON.** A newspaper worker of wide experience and marked ability, John W. Glennon, editor of the Stevens Point Gazette, has won professional success through meritorious work, and achieved a noteworthy position in the field of journalism. He is a native born citizen, his birth having occurred at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, May 2, 1867.

James Glennon, his father, was born in County Roscommon, Ireland, in 1826, and soon after his marriage came with his bride to Wisconsin, locating at Stevens Point in 1858. A riverman and a pioneer lumberman, he kept busily employed during his active life, doing his full share in advancing the industrial interests of Portage County. He lived to a ripe old age, dying at his home in Stevens Point in 1907. His wife, whose maiden name was Julia Fleming, was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, in 1836, and died in Stevens Point, Portage County, December 5, 1885. Their four children all live in Stevens Point, as follows: John W., Frank M., Mrs. Catherine Gething and Mrs. James Duggan.

As a boy John W. Glennon attended the lower grades of the public schools and the parochial schools, his training therein, however, playing a relatively small part in fitting him for his career. When but thirteen years of age he began an apprenticeship at the printer's trade, and having thoroughly mastered its mechanical details familiarized himself with all the particulars that help make a newspaper attractive and easily read. Since assuming editorship of the Stevens Point Gazette Mr. Glennon has met with well deserved success, the paper being bright, newsy, reliable and, above all, a clean, trustworthy journal, giving to its readers as far as possible the advantage of obtaining the latest domestic and foreign news.

Mr. Glennon married September 2, 1890, at Stevens Point, Elizabeth A. Nugent, who was born at Markesan, Wisconsin, October 29, 1865. Her parents, George P. and Margaret (Houlehan) Nugent, are both dead, her father having died in 1898 and her mother in 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Glennon have two children, namely: George Nugent, born June 18, 1892, is auditor of the Milwaukee Normal School; and Bertha, born January 11, 1900, is attending the Stevens Point Normal School, being a member of the class of 1920.

Mr. Glennon is a staunch democrat, but has never been an aspirant for political honors, although he served on the local board of education from July, 1914, until July, 1916. Religiously he is a member of Saint Stephen's Catholic Church. Fraternally he belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters, of which he was chief ranger for seven years, and of which he is now deputy high chief ranger; he is also a member of the Knights of Columbus and of the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin, which he has served for four years as recording secretary. Mr. Glennon is likewise a member and president of the Central Wisconsin Press Association.

**ROBERT C. BROTEN** is one of the most competent engineers on the Soo Line, and has been handling the throttle of a locomotive for a number of years. He came to Wisconsin a little more than a child in

years and has worked and earned every step of advancement he has had.

Mr. Broten was born in Norway January 6, 1874, a son of Gustav and Karen (Caspersen) Broten. Both parents were natives of Norway. The father died in the old country about 1878, when his son Robert was four years old. The mother was born in 1850, and is still living. She was twice married, and had three children by her first husband and three by the second. Robert C. Broten's younger brother is Anton. The other three children are Andrea, Martin and Frederick, who died when about six years of age. Martin is now located at Fort Stanton, New Mexico, and was a soldier for several years but is now employed by the United States Government. The father of these latter children was Julius Arnesen, who is still living in Norway.

Robert C. Broten was educated in the public schools of his native country for about six years. He was confirmed in the Lutheran Church in 1887, and in August of the same year, though only fourteen years old, he set out for America and came to Stevens Point, Wisconsin. He went into the woods and for four winters worked for the lumber company of John Week. He also spent nine months with the McCrosslin & Stewart Lumber Company. During the season of 1892 he was in the harvesting and threshing fields of Minnesota. After that he was again in the lumber woods for a year, and for five years and nine months was employed in the Kurran Hotel.

Mr. Broten began his railroad career in 1900 as a fireman with the Wisconsin Central, and in 1904 was promoted to engineer. Thus for fourteen years he has been one of the careful and efficient men on that road and is very popular among railway circles as well as in the citizenship of Stevens Point. He owns his home at 318 Madison Street in Stevens Point. He was formerly active in the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and is now a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. He also belongs to Lodge No. 93, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and the Royal Arch Chapter, in politics is a republican, and with his family is a member of the Episcopal Church. All his children were baptized in the Episcopal faith.

May 21, 1896, Mr. Broten married Miss Sophia Johnson. She was born at Konigsberg, Norway, March 5, 1875, daughter of John H. and Martina (Moen) Johnson. Her parents came from Norway in 1882, locating at Marshfield, Wisconsin, where her father died in August, 1916, when about sixty-four years of age. The mother is still living. The Johnson children were: Jennie, Sophia, Carrie, Lyda, Hattie, Eddie and Emma, all still living except Emma. Mrs. Broten's father for a number of years kept a boarding house at Marshfield and also owned considerable property. Mrs. Broten's mother, Martina Moen, was born in Norway, daughter of Peter and Stena (Ludorgsen) Moen, natives of Norway. These parents with their son Ludvig P. Moen, came to Stoughton, Dane County, Wisconsin, and a year later were joined by other members of the family, including H. C. Moen, Hans J. and Sophia. Martina Moen, mother of Mrs. Broten, remained in Norway. In 1872 the Moen family located at Stevens Point, where another child, Fred Moen, was born. Peter Moen worked at different occupations at Stevens Point, and in Norway was a miner. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran Church. He died in 1894, at the age of fifty-eight, and his wife in 1912, aged eighty-two.

Mr. and Mrs. Broten became the parents of six children: Harold,

who died at the age of thirteen years; Robert D., who is now a soldier, with Battery E of the One Hundred and Twentieth Field Artillery, and is now in France and was one of the ten men specially selected from that regiment for wire service; William Russell, who enlisted in the United States Army, Battery A, Railroad Artillery; Lanora, who is in the senior class of high school; Warren, in the seventh grade of the grammar school; and George, who died in infancy, January 18, 1909.

Mrs. Broten is very active and popular socially in Stevens Point, is a member of the G. I. A., an auxiliary of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and a member of the Eastern Star and the Woman's Club of Stevens Point, and a member of the Arbutus Chapter of the Eastern Star.

JOHN H. O'BRIEN, general yardmaster for the Soo lines at Stevens Point, is a veteran in railroad work, though he is by no means an old man, and in fact has hardly attained the middle line of age. He began railroading when a boy and has kept his energies largely directed in one line ever since.

Mr. O'Brien was born at Ishpeming, Michigan, September 3, 1877, son of W. H. and Catherine (O'Brien) O'Brien. His father was born in Ireland and his mother in Canada. The father came to the United States when a young man, married and took up work as a miner, which he followed in Michigan for many years. He died at Ironwood, Michigan, October 14, 1917, at the age of seventy-four. His widow is now living at Evelth, Minnesota. They were active members of the Catholic Church and the father for many years was identified with the Ancient Order of Hibernians. In their family were the following children: John H., James W., William, first of the name, who died in infancy, William H., Michael J., Cornelius, deceased, Thomas, Catherine, deceased, Edward and Robert.

John H. O'Brien was educated in the public and parochial schools of Ishpeming and Ironwood, Michigan. He became self-supporting when about fifteen years old. His first work was as messenger boy with the Western Union Telegraph Company at Ironwood. He also acted as call boy and clerk with the old Milwaukee, Lake Shore & Western Railroad. For a time he was an employe of the Steel Trust but soon returned to railroading and has been through many phases of the operating service, from clerk to railway conductor and yardmaster. He came to Stevens Point in 1899, but the following year was stationed at Abbottsford and on December 18, 1910, returned to Stevens Point as general yardmaster for the Soo lines.

Mr. O'Brien is a member of the Order of Railway Conductors, is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Stevens Point and is active in the Catholic Church. In politics he is an independent voter. In 1905 he married Miss Mary Finn, of La Crosse, Wisconsin. Six children were born to their marriage: John, deceased; Mary Belle; Francis; James, George and Catherine, the last three being deceased.

ALEX Y. WALLACE was born in Dewey Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, August 29, 1874, and is a son of Robert G. and Anna E. (Whitney) Wallace. His father, born in County Armagh, Ireland, in 1838, came to the United States in young manhood and for several

years was a resident of Dubuque, Iowa, from which city he came to Portage County about 1867 to look after the interests of a Dubuque business man. He shortly afterwards bought this business and continued to operate until about 1895. In 1882 he came to Stevens Point, this city being his home until his death in 1899. He was a republican in politics, and took an active interest in civic affairs, serving for some time as alderman of the Fourth Ward. Robert G. Wallace married Anna E. Whitney, who was born in New Brunswick, Canada, in 1847, and came to Portage County about 1867 with her parents, George and Jane (Rogers) Whitney. Mr. Whitney was a lumberman and on first coming to the United States settled in Knowlton Township, Marathon County, and went into the lumber and logging business, which he followed until within a few years of his death. He also took an active interest in public affairs and held a number of offices, among them supervisor of his township, to which he was elected on the republican ticket. He and his wife both passed away at Stevens Point, he in the faith of the Baptist Church and she as an Adventist. They were the parents of the following children: Anna E.; George A.; Daniel Roger; Minna, the wife of George L. Rogers, of Stevens Point; Henrietta, the wife of Emerson E. Wells, of Stevens Point; Alice, deceased; Charlotte, the wife of Dr. Nellis Kennedy, a physician of California; Grace, the wife of William West, of Stevens Point; and Robert, deceased. Robert G. Wallace was a member of the Church of England, while Mrs. Wallace, who survives him and resides at Stevens Point, belongs to the Baptist faith. They had children as follows: Robert G., deceased; Sarah J.; Alexander Y.; George W., deceased; Grace; John H. and Robert G., deceased; Bessie B. and Robert G., who are living.

Alexander Y. Wallace was educated in the graded and high schools of Stevens Point, where he also took a commercial course in the business college, and at the age of eighteen years began to learn the trade of cigar making. To this business he has devoted the major part of his energies ever since, and in 1908 began the manufacture of cigars as his regular business. His factory is located at No. 619 Briggs Street, and he is the owner of his own house, a pleasant home in the residential district. Mr. Wallace is a socialist in his political views, and was alderman of the First Ward for about three years, establishing a good record, as he did also while serving for ten months during the Spanish-American war as a member of Company I, Fourth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in which he enlisted in 1898. Aside from his business interests he finds his chief interest in good literature, and is a well read man, an observing student, and a man of broad information along many lines of thought.

Mr. Wallace was married in 1902 to Miss Jennie Petersen, of Outagamie, Wisconsin. Mrs. Wallace is a member of the Adventist Church. She and her husband have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances at Stevens Point.

IRA BARKER, JR., is of the pioneer element of Portage County. He came to this region more than sixty years ago. He began the battle of existence as a river man and woodsman, later was a farmer, and what he and his family endured and what they achieved, and the riches of esteem that were paid them by their neighbors is worthy of something more than passing record. More than fifty years ago Mr.



Barker did his part as a soldier of the Union, and now that this country is again engaged in a great war one of his sons is also found in the ranks doing his part.

Mr. Barker was born in Lisle Township of Broome County, New York, June 14, 1838, and has attained the dignity of four score years. He is a son of Ira and Margaret (Uptegrove) Barker, both natives of New York State. His father was born in 1792 and the mother about 1812. They married in Tioga County, New York. Grandfather Barker was one of the pioneer York State lumbermen. The Barker ancestry goes back to the days of the Mayflower emigration. Ira Barker, Sr., was a farmer, and about 1865 he and his wife came to Portage County and settled in Buena Vista Township. He bought a farm there and lived in that locality honored and respected for his industry the rest of his days. He died July 26, 1892, and is one of the few residents of Portage County to become centenarians. His wife died in 1896, at the age of eighty-four. Politically he voted the whig ticket until the formation of the republican party, when he espoused that cause. Ten of their children reached manhood and womanhood: Charles; Ira, Jr.; Elizabeth; Delaphine; Mary; Theodore; Sarah; Edward; Helen, and Flora.

Ira Barker, Jr., was reared in his native state and had a common school education. Member of a large household, at the age of eight years he left home, relieving his parents of the necessity of supporting him, and since that age his labor has provided his support and all the prosperity he has enjoyed. For four years after leaving home he lived with a man named Miller, then for a short time was with an uncle in Tioga County, and also lived with a Mr. Schoonover.

In 1856, at the age of eighteen, Mr. Barker came to Portage County, Wisconsin, invading the wilderness which at that time covered all Central Wisconsin. He lived in Buena Vista Township, but for eleven years spent the summers on the river and for twenty-five winters was in the lumber woods. He finally bought a farm in Almond Township, later sold that and lived at Plover for two years, and then bought land on which Arnott Station now stands. He cleared that property, developed a good place of eighty acres, kept it in a high state of cultivation and erected good buildings. He was a general farmer, handling good stock, but about 1888 retired from the farm and removed to Stevens Point, which city has been his home for thirty years. For about seven years he was a merchant at Stevens Point, but since then has lived retired. He sold his farm about ten years after moving to Stevens Point. Mr. Barker has one of the good homes of the city at 1211 Clark Street.

His military record began with his enlistment at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, December 2, 1861, in Company G of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry. He was with the army a total of three years, three months and fourteen days. He was in the big fight at Shiloh, where he received a number of close calls. Afterwards he was in the fighting in Eastern Tennessee and Northern Georgia, including the battles of Missionary Ridge, Altoona Pass, in which every third man of his command was killed, was with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea, and was one of the veteran troopers who saw the final scenes of the great struggle. Mr. Barker has for many years been actively identified with the Grand Army of the Republic, and is adjutant of his Post.

For thirty years he was a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

He has done his part as a good citizen, has steadfastly voted the republican ticket, and when on the farm near Arnott was a member of the school board. He has always advocated temperance and was a leader in that movement when it was by no means so popular as it is today. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

On August 19, 1860, Mr. Barker married Miss Triphena Topping, who was born in New York State May 29, 1843. Mrs. Barker died at Stevens Point in 1909. Six children were born to their marriage. Katie, deceased, married Frank Richmond and had one child, Bertha Helen. Edith is the wife of Harry Wilcox, and their family consists of Flossie, Archie and Gertrude. Jennie is the wife of Harlow Bennett and has six children, Hardin, Robert, Veva, Edith, Katie and Brownie. Jesse Ulysses is the soldier representative of the family, has the rank of major and is paymaster for about five thousand men, his headquarters being at Atlanta, Georgia. He and his wife, Millie, have one child, Ira James. The fifth of the family, the initials of whose name were A. L., died in infancy. Ethel married Charles Wherritt and has two children, Fritz and George. Mr. Barker married for his second wife, March 13, 1915, Mrs. Elizabeth Helen Buchan, of Stevens Point.

CLYDE ADAMS. Real pioneers of Portage County were the families that made permanent settlement here during the decade of the '50s. To a large degree it was upon them that devolved the task of clearing the wilderness and preparing the way for the substantial civilization which is now found in this section of Wisconsin. One of such families was that of Adams, three generations of which have been represented here and counting the younger children there have been practically five generations to live in the county.

Of the second generation was Jerome B. Adams, who was born in Alden Township, Erie County, New York, February 25, 1840. His parents were John and Lucy (Newberry) Adams, both natives of New York State. They were pioneer settlers in Kenosha County, Wisconsin, locating there about the time Wisconsin came into the Union. In 1853 as a family they moved to the wilderness of Buena Vista Township of Portage County, where John Adams died in 1864, at the age of seventy-five, and his wife passed away about 1888, aged seventy-three. They had seven children: Julia, Evelyn, Mary, Jonathan, Jerome B., George and James. The last died at the age of six years. John Adams was a republican and a member of the Baptist Church.

Jerome B. Adams received his first schooling in his native state, attended school in Kenosha County, and was thirteen years old when brought to Buena Vista Township in 1853. He went to school here for a time, but soon found an opportunity to pay his own way in the world. One winter he worked for Mr. Copps at old Buena Vista Village, now Keene. For four years he was in the employ of Colleyton & Wigginton. He also did some farming but these peaceable vocations were interrupted in 1861 with the outbreak of the war, when he volunteered in Company A of the Sixteenth Wisconsin Infantry. His service was practically continuous until the close of hostilities

and the record he made as a soldier is greatly prized by his descendants. He participated in the great theater of the war in the Middle West, fought at Shiloh and Corinth, was stationed at Louisiana during the siege of Vicksburg, participated in the siege of Atlanta, and afterwards marched with Sherman to the sea. When the war was over he resumed farming and in 1874 bought a place of 120 acres in Buena Vista Township and also had sixty acres in Almond Township.

April 13, 1866, soon after returning from the war, Jerome Adams married Miss Emma Humphreys. She was born in England September 27, 1837, and came alone to the United States, her parents having died in England. Jerome B. Adams and wife had five children.

Minnie, the oldest, lives at Stevens Point, widow of Ernest Bennett. She has four children, Raymond, Opal, Stella and Viva. Raymond married Ethel Berry, and has two children, Mildred and Maurita. Opal is the wife of Ray O'Keefe, and their children are Neil R., Murna and Edward.

Hugo, the second of the family, is a farmer in Almond Township. He first married Blanche Thomas, who died in October, 1906, leaving five children: Aletha, Edyth, Harry Jerome, deceased, Jerome and Lowell. The younger child, Lowell, is now the adopted son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Adams and was born October 25, 1906. Hugo Adams married for his present wife Mattie Scott. He is a farmer in Almond Township.

Byron C. Adams, third of the children of Jerome Adams and wife, lives on the old homestead farm and married Annette Bennett, who was born in Winnebago County, Wisconsin, July 7, 1867. They have seven children: Emma Fay, who married Lewis Seavy and has one child, Margaret Annette; Hazel, wife of Patrick Riley; Neva Merl, Caroline Olivia, Minnie Victoria, Eva Ellen and Victor Harold.

The fifth of the family is Clyde Adams and the fourth in age was Victor, now deceased.

Mr. Clyde Adams, whose work and citizenship have commended him to the confidence and esteem of the people of Belmont Township, was born on the farm in Buena Vista Township February 3, 1878. He grew up with his parents, attended public school and has been a Belmont Township farmer for over fifteen years. In 1902 he bought 120 acres in section 10 of that township and has done much to improve and broaden the scope of his farm activities. He erected some buildings, has put in much fencing and besides his home place he also rents and cultivates the 160 acres known as the William Ward Farm. He devotes his land to general farming and stockraising.

In politics he is a republican. He is now serving as a director of the school board, is manager of the Blaine Hall Stock Company of Belmont Township; is affiliated with the Knights of the Maccabees and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Blaine.

In 1899 he married Miss Elizabeth Ward. She was born in Belmont Township April 14, 1879, daughter of William and Maggie (Smith) Ward. Her mother was a daughter of James and Nancy Jane Smith, now deceased, well known pioneers of Belmont Township. William Ward died about 1912, and his widow is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Adams. Mr. and Mrs. Adams besides their adopted son above mentioned have one daughter of their own, Coral, who was born December 14, 1900. She has attended the district schools and is now

a junior in the Almond High School and has also taken summer courses in the State Normal at Stevens Point.

RICHARD G. BREITENSTEIN like other members of his family has distinguished himself by ability to accumulate large landed possessions and by the skillfulness with which he manages his farm and other interests. Mr. Breitenstein, like his brother, I. W. Breitenstein, mentioned elsewhere in this publication, has been a merchant, but is now concentrating his energies upon a large farm in Stockton Township.

A son of Anton and Mary (Beck) Breitenstein, whose part as pioneers has been described on other pages, Richard G. Breitenstein was born on the home farm in Stockton Township October 11, 1867. He spent part of his boyhood in the old log house which the family first inhabited after coming to Portage County. With an education acquired from the district schools he got his first opportunities in life in business. From 1896 to 1904 he was a merchant at Knowlton. He then sold his store and bought his present farm in Stockton Township, comprising 200 acres. Mr. Breitenstein also has 120 acres in Lanark Township, besides 400 acres in Marathon County. He is a general farmer and stock raiser, and has erected some of the very modern buildings found in that section of the rural community. His big and well arranged barn was erected in 1905.

Mr. Breitenstein is a democrat, but has been too busy to concern himself with the affairs of politics. He is a member of the Catholic Church and the Catholic Order of Foresters.

October 28, 1896, he married Miss Lena Bauman. Mrs. Breitenstein was born in Marathon County, Wisconsin, December 13, 1878, daughter of Barney and Caroline (Zerbell) Bauman. Her father was born in Baden, Germany, in 1840, and her mother in 1843. They married at Knowlton, Wisconsin, and her father for many years was engaged in the lumber business and farming. He died at Wausau in 1903, while Mrs. Breitenstein's mother died at Knowlton in 1883. Her children were Anna, Henry, Rose, Crissie and Rena. Her father married for his second wife Amelia Zermon, but there were no children by that union.

Mr. and Mrs. Breitenstein had had five children: Myron J., who is now established in a home of his own, his wife having been Viva Phelps; Alma, Coral, Edward and the fifth, George, died in infancy.

JAMES BURGOWNE. Of the men who have actively participated in the agricultural transformation in Portage County during the last thirty or forty years none are better or more favorably known than James Burgoyne of Belmont Township. Mr. Burgoyne has had a long and active career and his present success and position are due entirely to the exercise of his native energies and abilities, an exercise which has brought him practically financial independence.

He was born in England in March, 1855, a son of James and Mary (Moyses) Burgoyne. His parents spent all their lives in the old country. Their children were: William, of Seymour, Wisconsin; James; Stephen, of Dayton Township, Waupaca County; Enos, who still lives in England; Charles, of Lynn Township, Waupaca County; and Mary, who died in 1912, wife of Arthur DeVore, who died in the Old Soldiers Home in Waupaca County.

James Burgoyne was reared and educated in England, married

there, and in 1885 brought his family to America and settled on a farm in Dayton Township of Waupaca County. After two years there he lived for a similar time in Green Lake County, and then came to Belmont Township of Portage County. Lacking the money with which to buy a farm of his own, he was a renter on the George Robinson farm for eleven years. He then moved to his present place, where he owns 160 acres, and also has eighty acres known as the L. Jones Farm. He has done much to improve his land and is a general farmer and stock raiser. His specialty in stock is good horses. He has five fine animals, weighing each about 1,600 pounds. Mr. Burgoyne is a republican voter.

In 1876, in England, he married Lovedy Greenwood. She was born in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Burgoyne became the parents of eight children, named Albert Ernest, Mary Margaret, Enos Arthur, who died in England, John Walter, Kate, William Charles, Ethel Elizabeth and Thomas Edward. A star in the service flag at the family home represents the son William Charles, who is now in training at Camp Grant. The son Albert married Carrie Olson, of Waupaca County, and they have three children, Oweda, Fola and Elmer. Mary Margaret is the wife of Austin Taylor, of Waupaca County, and also has three children, Floyd, Evalyn and Clair. Ethel Elizabeth married Axel Nelson, of Waupaca County.

GUSTAF ADOLPH SWANSON has spent nearly all the years of his life in Portage County and that part of the state, and increased years have brought him increased influence and usefulness and esteem. He was a farmer by training, followed the woods and the river for some years, and latterly has become established as a leading dealer at Stevens Point in coal and wood.

Mr. Swanson was born in Sweden November 7, 1877. The name in Swedish is spelled Svanson. His parents, John Peter and Carolina (Anderson) Swanson, were natives of the old country, the father born in 1845 and the mother in 1843. They married in Sweden and in 1868 the family came to America. The father preceded them about six months and coming to Wisconsin found employment in the Webster saw mill. His wife and children joined him, after having spent seventeen days at Castle Garden, New York. John P. Swanson was in the saw mill and also did cordwood cutting, but after about three years bought a farm three miles east of Junction City. He lived on this place five years and then bought a farm of eighty acres in Eau Pleine Township. About six years ago he acquired another eighty acres and now has a well rounded farm of 160 acres, highly cultivated and a prosperous home for his declining years. His wife died here November 24, 1916. He is a republican in politics and with his family is a member of the Swedish Methodist Church. There were eight sons: Carl, deceased; Frank Oscar; John Axel, deceased; Gustaf Adolph; Claus Alfred; John Emil; Elmer Hjalmer; and Albert Ottenaus, who died in infancy.

Gustaf A. Swanson grew up in the country districts, attended public schools, and when a youth found ample employment for his energies on the home farm. He remained at home until about twenty-six years of age, after which for three years he was in the logging business with his brother Axel. He worked at Big Eau Pleine and for part of the time camped out and then built a small shanty. For

eighteen months at a stretch he was away from home. About 1900 Mr. Swanson came to Stevens Point and established a wood yard near Clifford's Mill. Four years ago he added coal, and then located his yard at 1102 Center Avenue. More recently he has developed still another line of enterprise, having developed some gravel pits and now handles gravel on a large scale. Mr. Swanson also owns his home at 327 Oak Street.

He is a republican in politics and is a member of the Stevens Point Episcopal Church. June 16, 1902, he married Miss Sarah Etta Howe, who was born in Milwaukee, daughter of David H. and Sarah Howe, who now live on Center Avenue in Stevens Point. Her father was a soldier in the Civil war, and reference to him is made on other pages. Mrs. Swanson was educated in Stevens Point, attending high school and graduating from the State Normal School and for several years before her marriage was a successful teacher. Mr. and Mrs. Swanson have five children: Cleo, Joyce, Caroline, Sadie and Carl Gustave. Sadie died in infancy.

**LAURITS EDWARD GORDON.** The well-directed labor of Laurits Edward Gordon, one of the progressive and energetic agricultural representatives of the agricultural community in the vicinity of Nelsonville, is represented in the ownership of a property of more than 200 acres, a part of which is located within the limits of the village mentioned. Mr. Gordon, who is known to his fellow-citizens as L. E. Gordon, Jr., has passed his entire life in an agricultural atmosphere, and at the present time, in addition to general farming, is devoting himself to dairy farming and the raising of full-blooded Guernsey cattle, and in all three departments has achieved an enviable success.

L. E. Gordon was born on a farm in New Hope Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, December 9, 1865, a son of Lars E. and Marin (Kjer) Gordon, and a grandson of Iner and Gren (Larson) Gordon, natives of Norway who passed their lives in that country. Lars E. Gordon, better known as L. E. Gordon, Sr., was born in Norway, February 20, 1831, and came to the United States in young manhood, gradually making his way to Portage County. Here in 1863 he purchased eighty acres of land in New Hope Township, cleared and cultivated it and for many years was engaged in farming. He made numerous improvements, although he left twenty acres in timber, and this property he still owns, although it is now rented out, Mr. Gordon being retired and a resident of Nelsonville, where he owns a home. He married Marin Kjer, also a native of Norway, who is now deceased, and they became the parents of the following children: Ole, born in Norway, and now a merchant of Nelsonville; Lars E., born in Norway, who died on the Atlantic Ocean just before the vessel reached the shores of America; Gusta, who also died on the Atlantic, just before her elder brother; Gusta (2), who is now married and resides at Merrill, Wisconsin; L. E.; and Marie, who is unmarried and resides with her father at Nelsonville.

L. E. Gordon received his education in the public schools and was reared on the home farm, remaining with his father until the spring of 1892, when he went to Adams County, Wisconsin, and embarked upon an agricultural venture on his own account. He remained in that county for eight years, and in addition to making a success of his farming operations became one of the substantial and prominent men

in civic life in his community, serving as township supervisor of Strongs Prairie Township and as postmaster at Arkdale. In 1900 he returned to Portage County and located on his present farm, a tract of 212 acres situated right on the city limits of Nelsonville, with part of the farm, including his home, inside of the village line. His general farming operations proved prosperous, but he also has specialized in the breeding of full-blooded Guernsey cattle and has an excellent business as a dairy farmer as well. Mr. Gordon is thoroughly informed in all departments of his calling, and his property reflects the presence of capable and progressive management and the use of modern methods. The buildings are modern and commodious and the equipment up-to-date in every particular. Mr. Gordon is known among his associates as a man of consummate ability and absolute integrity, and the high esteem in which he is held is shown in the fact that he is president of the Portage and Waupaca Counties Guernsey Breeders Association, of which he was one of the organizers. Since locating at Nelsonville he has taken an interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the village, and has served as a member of the village council.

Mr. Gordon was married March 22, 1892, to Miss Clara Marie Peterson, who was born in Amherst Township, daughter of Adam Peterson, and to this union there have been born four children: Alice M., LeRoy W., Arthur E. and Clarence. The members of the Gordon family belong to the Lutheran Church.

**WILLIAM A. GETHING.** One of the worthy citizens furnished to Portage County by Ireland was the late William A. Gething, in whose life were exemplified the sterling traits of character of the people of the Emerald Isle. During the greater part of an active and vigorous career he was engaged in the difficult work of breeding road horses, and in his day and locality it is conceded that he had no superior in his special field. He was a citizen of worth and substance, reliable and trustworthy, who at his death left a clean record and a wide circle of sincere friends.

William A. Gething was born in Ireland, October 4, 1865, and received a common school education in his native land. He was a lad of fifteen years when he left Erin for the land of promise across the Atlantic, and after a short stay in New York City continued westward to Chicago, where his home was located for some years. He next went to Minneapolis, and then came to Stevens Point and became identified with the race horse business. For several years prior to his death Mr. Gething was also engaged in the breeding of Airedale terriers, in which he was also very successful. Perhaps much of his success was to be found in the fact that he had a natural love for dumb animals and that they were attracted to him. His specialized work had been thoroughly mastered by him, and he was known to animal-lovers all over this part of the country. His death occurred April 21, 1917, at his home at 728 Ellis Street, where he and Mrs. Gething had lived for a number of years, but since his death his widow has moved to 544 Normal Avenue. Mr. Gething was a democrat in politics, but never sought public office. While naturally a sociable man, who appreciated the companionship of his fellows, he cared more for his home, and was never so happy as when in his own residence in the midst of his wife and children.

Mr. Gething was married October 8, 1895, to Miss Kathryn Mary Glennon, who was born at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, May 12, 1872, a daughter of James and Julia (Fleming) Glennon, a sketch of whose lives will be found on another page of this work. Mrs. Gething was educated at the Stevens Point parochial schools and has resided in this city all her life, having lived with her parents until her union with Mr. Gething. They were the parents of five children: Florence, born October 7, 1896, a graduate of the high school and of the Stevens Point Normal School, class of 1917, and at this time a teacher at Thorpe, Wisconsin; Edward, born February 24, 1899, who attended the graded and high schools of Stevens Point and is now a student at the Stevens Point Business College; Leona, born July 15, 1901, who is a high school student; Kathleen, born August 21, 1904, who is attending the Catholic Parochial School; and Lorain, born September 3, 1914. Mrs. Gething is widely acquainted at Stevens Point, especially in the Catholic Church, where she has been a worker in many worthy movements.

CHARLES BION BAKER is a veteran railroad man. He has been a passenger conductor with the old Wisconsin Central and the present Soo Line for thirty-five years. Children who rode with him free or at half fare when he was new to the business and the role have many times in recent years been on his trains with their own children and in a few cases with grandchildren. Mr. Baker is not only a trusted and honored servant of the railroad and the general public, but is one of Portage County's leading citizens and has been a resident of Stevens Point and surrounding country most of his life.

He was born in Portage County July 27, 1858, a date which indicates the pioneer residence of the Baker family in this section of Wisconsin. He is a son of Asahel Henderson and Calista (Winslow) Baker. His father was born at Rochester, New York, June 18, 1835. The mother was born at Rutland, New York, August 25, 1834, and was a descendant of Richard Warren and Eliza (Juatt), his wife, of the Mayflower. Asahel Henderson Baker moved to Michigan when a young man, and at Fairfield in that state, on December 30, 1855, was married. In 1857 he moved to Portage County, but soon after the birth of his son Charles B. returned to Michigan. In 1868 the family resumed residence in this county, settling on a farm in Stockton Township. Asahel Henderson Baker made a record of service as a Union soldier. He was a resident of Michigan during the period of the Civil war and enlisted and served in Company B of the Sixth Michigan Volunteer Cavalry. In addition to farming in Portage County he frequently took contracts for railway and other construction. He had some contracts for the Wisconsin Central when it was built through Portage County, with the Green Bay Railway Company, and got out some large contracts for timber and ties. Later he went to Minnesota and took up land at Ada in Norman County and was also engaged in the agricultural implement business. In 1891 he left Minnesota for a visit back to his old home in Michigan, and died in March of that year. He was a republican in politics, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and of the Masonic order. He was a man of wonderful experience and had come to know nearly all phases of western life and people. After the war he went to the far West and was at Salt Lake City at the time the Utes went on the





*C. B. Baker*

warpath in that section. His wife died at Knowlton, Wisconsin, January 30, 1873. Their children were: Ella, Charles B., Frances A., Minnie, Ozite and Jessie. Ella, Minnie and Ozite are now deceased, all of them passing away in Portage County, victims of a smallpox epidemic.

Charles B. Baker was educated in district and village schools while living in Michigan and Wisconsin. He was about fifteen years old when his mother died, and he then went back to Michigan and worked on a farm until 1879. In that year he returned to Stevens Point, and soon afterward went to Minnesota and took up a pre-emption and homestead of 320 acres in Norman County. He acquired title to this land, and hired a man to improve it. He had acquired and developed considerable property, looking after it while following his regular vocation as a railroad man.

In the spring of 1880 Mr. Baker went to work as fireman on the old Wisconsin Central, running out of Stevens Point. A year and a half later he took a position as brakeman, and in 1883 was promoted to conductor and has been handling trains on the Wisconsin Central and Soo Line now for thirty-five consecutive years, being one of the oldest conductors in the service of that company. Mr. Baker owns one of the fine homes in Stevens Point, at 621 Strong's Avenue, and he also owns a residence at 620 Elk Street. He is a member of the Order of Railway Conductors, is affiliated with Evergreen Lodge No. 93, Free and Accepted Masons, Forest Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, is a republican in politics and he and his wife are active members of the Episcopal Church.

On December 5, 1883, the same year that he was promoted to the responsibilities of railway conductor, Mr. Baker formed a most happy and congenial alliance with Miss Edith June Lawrence. Mrs. Baker is one of the prominent women of Stevens Point. She was born at Mayville in Dodge County, Wisconsin, June 29, 1860, a daughter of Newcomb Cushman and Helen M. (Rogers) Lawrence. Her father was born at Henderson in Jefferson County, New York, March 9, 1828. Her mother was born March 25, 1832, in the same county, a daughter of Saul and Eliza (Adams) Wilbur. When Helen M. Wilbur was about a year old her father accidentally lost his life, and a year later her mother married James M. Rogers. After that she was always known as Helen Rogers. Her stepfather, James M. Rogers, was born November 11, 1808, and died in Dodge County, Wisconsin, November 22, 1890. Her mother, Eliza Adams Wilbur Rogers was born June 25, 1809, and died at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, March 3, 1890. Both are buried in Stevens Point. The Rogers family, including the mother of Mrs. Baker, came to Dodge County, Wisconsin, in 1848, and about 1866 they removed to Stevens Point. Newcomb C. Lawrence also arrived in Dodge County, Wisconsin, June, 1848, and on April 4, 1854, he and his wife were married at Mayville. Mrs. Baker's parents moved to Stevens Point in 1892, and her father died here April 18, 1909, and her mother on March 12, 1902. Her father was a carpenter and machinist and bridge builder, and did a great deal of work as a contractor for bridges and constructed them in many states of the Union. He was an honored member of the Masonic fraternity for forty-nine years, held all the offices in the lodge, and was affiliated with Vesper Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, at Mayville and Horicon Chapter, Royal Arch

Masons, at Horicon, Wisconsin. His wife was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Baker was one of four children: Elson and Ida May, both of whom died in infancy; Eva Isabel, now Mrs. C. A. Lamoreux, of Ashland, Wisconsin, and Edith June.

Mrs. Baker was educated in the Union School at Mayville, and prior to her marriage was a successful teacher for five years. Outside of her home duties at Stevens Point she has taken the lead in many movements and organizations that express the interest and public spirit of the community. For the past ten years she has been president of the Portage County Humane Society. She is also a former president of the Woman's Club and was secretary of the Hospital Association at the time St. Michael's Hospital was built. Through virtue of her old American ancestry she is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, served four years as worthy matron of the Eastern Star Chapter, and was secretary of the Parish House Association when the Episcopal parish hall was built. Both she and Mr. Baker have done much to forward the Red Cross work in the city and county and she is a member of the board of directors of the local Red Cross. Among other offices held in the interests of the public she is a member of the Stevens Point Board of Public Health and has the distinction of being the first and so far the only woman appointed to that board.

For many years Mr. and Mrs. Baker's thought and plans and cherished interests have centered in their only child and daughter, Frances Helen, who was born July 12, 1890. She graduated in June, 1909, after the full course at the Stevens Point Normal, and with two years at Carroll College received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1911. She won a scholarship in that institution and used it at the University of Wisconsin, from which in June, 1912, she received the high scholastic honor, the Master of Arts degree. During the following year this cultured young woman was a member of the faculty of Bethel College at Hopkinsville, Kentucky, but at the end of that time in June, 1913, one of the leading business men of Hopkinsville, Robert M. Fairleigh, claimed her as his bride. Mr. and Mrs. Fairleigh have three children. These three grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Baker are: June, born in March, 1914; Ann, born in October, 1915; and Thomas, born March 13, 1917.

Referring again to the father of Mrs. Baker, Mr. N. C. Lawrence, he too made a record as a Union soldier, having enlisted in September, 1864, in Company E of the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry. He was with Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley campaign, was in front of Petersburg while the Confederacy was making its last stand, and after the evacuation of that stronghold and of Richmond he was with the troops that pursued General Lee up to Appomattox. He was also present at the Grand Review in Washington, and received his honorable discharge in July, 1865. He was an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic and was affiliated with both the Subordinate Lodge and Encampment of Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically he was a republican and for several terms served as supervisor. He was the builder of the first schoolhouse at Mayville, Wisconsin. His father, Amos Lawrence, served in the War of 1812. His grandfather, Amos Lawrence, Jr., was a soldier in the Revolution, as were also his two great-grandfathers, viz., Amos Lawrence, Sr., and Jonathan Eggleston. Amos Lawrence, Sr., married Sarah Webster of Hartford

County, Connecticut, June 2, 1757. Jonathan Eggleston also fought in the French and Indian wars, 1757-58-59 in companies from Hartford, Windsor and Farmington.

**DENNIS H. PARKS.** There is a prevailing opinion in some circles that a farmer is necessarily a man of restricted interests and talents. In such an estimate the fact is of course overlooked that successful farming requires a knowledge of and fair skill covering more varied branches than is required of a good architect or a manufacturer. Even with all these things taken for granted Mr. Dennis H. Parks, of Plover Township, is an unusual citizen in his abilities and talents and tastes regardless of the varied capacity required for his work as a farmer. Mr. Parks is an enthusiast and student along several lines, and particularly as a community and civic leader. The work he has accomplished as chairman of the Board of Plover Township would be sufficient to give him an honorable place in the county's history apart from any other considerations.

Mr. Parks was born in Plover Township May 17, 1885, and is a son of Mr. R. W. Parks, referred to elsewhere in this publication. Dennis Parks grew up on the old homestead, had a public school education, and has been farming on his own account for about fifteen years. For eleven years he contented himself with the position of a renter, but in 1914 bought his present farm of 151 acres in section 26. He has his farm name registered as the Good Luck Ranch. It is a good farm, well managed, showing efficiency in every corner, and is devoted to general crops and stock raising. Mr. Parks in addition to the good residence upon the land erected a large barn in 1916.

One feature of his farm that attracts more than usual attention is the deer park. Mr. Parks is a naturalist, largely through self training and observation, and is an amateur taxidermist of considerable skill. Of his work in this field he has a number of fine specimens of mounted animals and birds, one of them being a mounted possum which was caught in Portage County. Mr. Parks is an exemplar of the life of the out of doors and nothing delights him more than a hunting trip, not so much with the gun, as with his keen and well trained eyes and his camera, many of his most interesting trophies of the hunt being photographs of wild life in its native haunts. Mr. Parks talks with a great deal of zest concerning his interesting observations gained during two winters spent in some of the scenic portions of California.

In politics he has always been a republican, and his name stands for distinctive leadership and clean and high ideals in local politics. For three years he served as school treasurer and was supervisor of his township one year and in 1916 was elected chairman of the board and has been re-elected in 1917 and 1918. During 1916-17-18 he was also chairman of the Township Board of Health and in the latter year was appointed health officer. In these capacities he has rallied about him the best people of the township, and during his official term was responsible for driving the saloons out of Plover Township and has become the central figure around whom the forces of decency naturally revolve. In the summer of 1918 Mr. Parks became interested in a rural telephone line and set out to connect the farmers of his district. He was successful and incorporated what is known as the Meehan Telephone Company, with fifteen rural subscribers connected with the Wisconsin Telephone Company at Stevens Point. He was elected

president of the company by the stockholders as a reward for his success.

Mr. Parks married December 15, 1906, Miss Isabel Netzley, who was born in Linwood Township of this county in 1887, daughter of Linous Netzley, of a family referred to more in detail on other pages. Mr. and Mrs. Parks have six children: Carroll, deceased; Vivia, Ranslaer, Chelmer, Hazel, and Dennis, Jr. Mrs. Parks was educated in the public schools of Portage County, also in the State Normal School at Stevens Point, and was a teacher for several years before her marriage.

**FRANK PLISZKA.** One of the hard working farmers and respected citizens of Portage County is Frank Pliszka, who owns valuable land in Stockton Township, and is a general farmer and cattle man he has spent most of his life in this county and has justly earned a high place in the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Pliszka was born in Poland March 23, 1868, son of Peter and Anna (Zlitzko) Pliszka. His parents came to Portage County in June, 1881, and in March of the following year settled on the farm where their son Frank now lives in Stockton Township. Peter Pliszka was a carpenter by trade, and worked at that occupation for a livelihood while clearing up and developing his farm. He was an honored resident of this county until his death on August 8, 1910, at the age of seventy-five. His widow is still living with her son Frank, aged eighty-one. They were the parents of four children, Stanley, Frank, Catherine and Julia.

The education of Frank Pliszka was begun in his native country, and he was about thirteen years old when his parents came to Wisconsin. After that he grew up on the home farm and after acquiring it from his father has continued to expand and develop his enterprise until his ownership now extends to 230 fertile and highly productive acres, all devoted to the uses of general farming and stock raising. One of the conspicuous improvements he has made on the farm is a barn 60 by 40 feet with a basement under all.

Mr. Pliszka was for two years assessor and for eleven years treasurer of Stockton Township. He has always affiliated with the democratic party, and is an active member of the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia.

On June 10, 1895, he married Miss Kate Platta. Mrs. Pliszka was born in Sharon Township of Portage County November 23, 1875, daughter of John and Josephine Platta. Her parents were pioneers in Portage County, settling here about 1859. Her father not long afterward enlisted for service in the Union army and was a soldier three years. This honored old veteran and his wife are still living in Sharon Township. They had a family of twelve children: Frances, Theodore, deceased, John, Kate, Helen, deceased, Mary, Emma, Joseph, Victor, Edward, Rose and Nick.

Mr. and Mrs. Pliszka have had nine children, named as follows: Stanley, Joseph, Nick, Delia, Raymond, who is deceased, Esther, Evelyn, Romie and Rufen. Their son Nick is now representing the family as a soldier, and is a member of Company A of the Seventeenth Machine Gun Battalion at Camp Forest, Georgia.

HALBERT JULIUS KANKRUD. Not only is one of the old pioneer families of Portage County recalled in the name of Kankrud, but it belongs to a prominent and representative citizen of today, Halbert Julius Kankrud, who is serving for the second time, most efficiently and acceptably, as superintendent of the county farm of Portage County. The family's history from the time it embarked on a vessel commanded by Captain Jacobson, in a port of Norway, sixty-eight years ago, to the present offers much to interest the general reader and in Portage County must stir memories of one now passed away whose public usefulness and personal character made him a man of mark here, the late Johannes I. Kankrud.

Halbert Julius Kankrud was born in New Hope Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, January 3, 1873. His parents were Johannes I. and Bertha (Peterson) Kankrud, both natives of Norway. The paternal grandfather was Iver Kankrud and he and his wife and four children came to the United States on a sailing vessel that consumed thirteen weeks in making the passage from Norway across the Atlantic Ocean and down the lakes until Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was reached. It had a difficult voyage, running on a dangerous sand bar at one time, and on another occasion, in a fog, collided with another vessel. The passengers were so worn out from exposure and lack of rest that they spent their first night in Wisconsin asleep on a Milwaukee wharf. On the following day Iver Kankrud and his family (this being in 1849), went on their way until they reached Jefferson County, where they proposed to settle permanently, but before their plans came to anything Mr. Kankrud and his wife both died. There were four children to be considered and it was very fortunate for them that their father's sister, a good woman, Mrs. Ingeborg Kankrud, wife of Hans Kankrud, took them to her heart and home and they were well cared for. Hans Kankrud was no known relative of his wife's people, the name being not an unusual one in Norway, but he was a fine man and later became one well known in Portage County.

In 1856 Hans Kankrud and wife and their three nieces and one nephew, came to Portage County, traveling by team from Jefferson County, and settled in New Hope Township. There he bought wild land which he cleared and improved and he and wife occupied it until they died. The names of the children to whom they gave a good home and kind treatment were as follows; Bertha, who married a Mr. Hole, still lives in New Hope Township; Mrs. Pauline Rustad, who also lives in New Hope Township; Mrs. J. O. Moen, who lives at Rhineland, in Oneida County, Wisconsin; and Johannes I., who died on his farm in Portage County in 1914.

Johannes I. Kankrud was young when his aunt and uncle settled in New Hope Township and he remained on the farm on which he was reared all his life. In Portage County he was married to Bertha Peterson, who was born in Norway, where her father, Peter Peterson, died. She came to Wisconsin when young and later her widowed mother came also and located with some of her children in Cameron, Barron County, and died there.

Johannes I. Kankrud was a very successful farmer for many years, a man of great industry and energy. In 1912 he built a comfortable, modern residence on a part of his farm, but lived but two years afterward to enjoy it. His widow still occupies the old homestead and is a lady well known in this neighborhood and very highly es-

teemed. Of their nine children seven reached maturity, namely: Halbert Julius, the only son; Lena, who became the wife of Oscar Abrahamson; Hannah, who died unmarried in 1901; Ida, who became the wife of M. O. Dobl; Emma, who married N. Abrahamson; Jennie, who died in 1916, was Mrs. A. O. Stolterberg; and Lillie, who is Mrs. George Lee.

For many years Mr. Kankrud was a leader in public affairs in New Hope Township and through his business capacity and his public spirit became known all over the country. He not only encouraged many worthy enterprises but assisted in their organization, and where his advice was taken or his active management came into play they proved successful. He was one of the organizers of the New Hope Fire Insurance Company, of which he was an official for fifteen years. He was also one of the organizers of the creamery at Garfield, and from the time of the organization of the company until his death he served as treasurer. For years he was a justice of the peace and the reliance placed in his judgment was many times evidenced. All township offices were open to him and he served as assessor for some years, for twelve years was township treasurer and at the time of his death was school treasurer. His talents were natural, for he had had comparatively little opportunity to develop them by education, and his virtues were those of a conscientious, kind, generous and Christian man. In early days, when no particular effort had yet been made to organize a Lutheran Church, Mr. Kankrud offered his home and on stated occasions a pastor would come from Scandinavia and hold services. Later he helped to organize the New Hope Lutheran Church and donated the first cemetery from his farm, in which thirty of the early settlers were laid to rest.

Halbert Julius Kankrud obtained his education in the public schools in New Hope Township. His early manhood was spent in helping his father on the farm and also he engaged in the business of installing pumps and windmills. Later he bought eighty acres that adjoined his father's farm and afterward operated both properties until the close of 1906. Proving a careful and successful farmer and in the meanwhile building up a reputation for integrity as a business man, his fellow citizens decided that he was admirably fitted for the office of superintendent of the county farm and elected him to this office, the duties of which he assumed on January 1, 1907. Mr. Kankrud continued on the county farm until 1912, introducing many improvements that benefited the inmates without materially adding to the county's taxes. In that year he bought his father's farm and retired from office and operated the farm that year, but was again elected superintendent of the county farm and on January 1, 1913, once more took charge for the county of its dependents, but still owns his own farm of 160 acres. In every way Mr. Kankrud is well placed. He is an intelligent, practical, experienced farmer and understands the methods by which the county farm may be made to yield abundant crops. At the same time he is a wise and just executive, and it is doubtful if the inmates of the Portage County Farm were ever more comfortable or better nourished than under its present administration. Mr. Kankrud is popular with his charges, as he is with people generally. He is liberal in his support of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Kankrud married Clara (Jorgensen) Waller, October 7, 1899.

Of their family, Clarence is now a corporal in the 127th Infantry, Company O, in France, and has been twice wounded in service; and Carla is a nurse in General Hospital at Amery, Wisconsin. These two are named Waller and are Mrs. Kankrud's children by a former marriage. Jessie Benora married Corporal Herbert Weinman of Company C, 107th Field Signal Bureau, and she is now a teacher in the grade school at Amherst Junction. Florence Evelyn is now attending the State Normal at Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Hanna Louella is a student at the Amherst High School. Mrs. Kankrud is active in the operation of the county farm and in other benevolent work.

GEORGE S. DIVER. A number of the business men of Portage County who are now engaged in successful business enterprises as merchants began their careers as agriculturists, and upon the farm gained the first experience and training that subsequently was developed into the kind of ability that enabled them to participate prosperously in mercantile affairs. In this class is found George S. Diver, of Nelsonville, member of the hardware firm of Winme & Diver. Before becoming a merchant Mr. Diver had spent a number of years on the farm, and while he won a fair amount of success as a tiller of the soil, it has been as a business man that he has prospered in greater degree.

George S. Diver was born on the family homestead in New Hope Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, in October, 1861, and is a son of Joseph and Harriet (Smith) Diver. His parents, natives of England, were married in that country and lived there for several years following their union. However, the father found that he was not making satisfactory progress and accordingly decided to try his fortunes in America, whither he came with his wife in 1855. For one year he resided in New York State, but conditions were too crowded, and in 1856 he pushed into the "new country" of Portage County, where, in New Hope Township, he took up forty acres of land from the United States Government, subsequently pre-empting another forty acres. His capital by this time had been entirely consumed, and in order that he make running expenses for his family he was forced to go to Plover to work at whatever honorable employment he could find, while Mrs. Diver was left on the new farm with the children. She was able to do much toward the clearing of the land, being a dependable and energetic woman, and was of great assistance to her husband during the hard early years. Later Mr. Diver worked on the W. V. Fleming farm near Amherst, but eventually he was able to get together enough money for current expenses, so that he could devote all his time to his own land. After this he made rapid progress, and eventually became the owner of a good property which represented the worthy and untiring labor of himself and his wife. This worthy couple passed away on the original home secured from the government after rounding out careers of signal usefulness, with the respect and esteem of the entire community. They were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and lived their faith. Their six children were: Harriet, who is deceased; Eliza; Josiah J.; William S., deceased; Mary E., deceased; and George S.

George S. Diver was educated in the public schools of Portage County and was reared as a farmer's boy, being trained in all the labors necessary to the proper handling of a country property. He



remained on the old homestead after the death of his parents, but in 1911 disposed of this land and located at Nelsonville, where in partnership with Henry Wimme he bought the hardware business formerly conducted by Ole Gorden. Since that time the business has been conducted under the style of Wimme & Diver. Mr. Diver, with the assistance of Mr. Wimme, who is his son-in-law, has succeeded in attracting to his establishment a large share of the business in shelf and heavy hardware and kindred articles in this part of the county, and has an up-to-date stock of goods, chosen for its utility and use to the people of the community and fairly priced. As a business man he has never taken advantage of a customer or a competitor, and for this reason his name is an honored one in commercial circles.

Mr. Diver was married May 27, 1887, to Miss Rena L. Irving, who was born in Wisconsin, a daughter of William Irving, and to this union there have been born seven children, as follows: Eva Pearl, Thomas S., Guy I., Ella E., Maude R., deceased, Addie B. and Lois E. Mr. and Mrs. Diver and their children belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church and have been generous in their support of its movements. He has been active in civic affairs and at various times has been called to offices of responsibility. While still residing in the country he acted as a member of the school board, and at present he is a school director of the village, in addition to which he has served in the office of trustee and supervisor of Nelsonville. His official record is an excellent one, and in various ways he has shown himself to be a reliable, useful and public-spirited citizen.

CHRISTIAN E. URBAHNS, division superintendent of the Soo lines, with headquarters at Stevens Point, began his railway career through the familiar gateway of telegraphy. He learned to handle a telegraph key when little more than a boy, was for a number of years connected with the Nickel Plate Railway in Indiana, and from there came to Wisconsin as one of the operating officials of the Soo Line.

Mr. Urbahns was born in Valparaiso, Indiana, November 3, 1870, a son of John H. and Elizabeth (Louch) Urbahns. His parents were natives of Schleswig-Holstein, the old Danish province now a part of the German Empire. They came to Indiana when young, married at Valparaiso, and spent the rest of their days there. The father died in 1876, at the age of forty-five, and the mother in 1900, aged sixty-three. John H. Urbahns was a very enterprising business man in Valparaiso, had a grocery store, was a livestock dealer and also operated a grain elevator. He was especially liberal in his benefactions to the Lutheran Church, of which he was a devout member. He built a church edifice and gave it to the local organization in Valparaiso and his old home in that city is the parsonage. In politics he was a republican and was honored with various local offices. He and his wife had five sons, all living, named John H., August Edward, Fred William, Christian E. and D. Ferdinand.

Christian E. Urbahns attended public and high schools at Valparaiso until he was fifteen years old, when he thought it devolved upon him to earn his own living. Attracted as so many boys are to the science of telegraphy, he learned that art, and before reaching voting age was employed as a telegraph operator. For several years he lived at Fort Wayne, Indiana, and was train dispatcher for the Nickel Plate Railway. In 1904 he came to Wisconsin, locating at Fond du

Lac, and since that date has been identified with the old Wisconsin Central. In January, 1906, he moved his headquarters to Abbottsford, as trainmaster, went to Chicago in 1907 as assistant superintendent, and in April, 1911, came to Stevens Point as division superintendent. Mr. Urbahns and family reside at 1108 Shaurette Street. He is interested in various financial institutions at Stevens Point and in politics was formerly a republican but is now an independent voter. He is affiliated in Masonry with Lodge No. 93, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Forest Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, Crusade Commandery, Knights Templar, and the Oriental Consistory of the Scottish Rite at Chicago. He is very active in the Presbyterian Church at Stevens Point.

March 2, 1893, Mr. Urbahns married Mary Louise Durfee, of Fort Wayne, Indiana. They have only one son, Robert Durfee, born July 17, 1899. He is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and is now a student in the medical department of the University of Minnesota.

Mr. Urbahns, though a comparative newcomer to Stevens Point, is one of its enterprising and public spirited citizens, and enjoys a distinctive place of leadership in the community. The keynote of his career has been hard, faithful and intelligent work, and it has taken him from a position in the ranks to one of the responsible offices in the railway transportation system of Wisconsin.

CHARLES I. ECKELS, representing one of the oldest families of Portage County, was born on a farm a part of which he still owns in Buena Vista Township, October 30, 1862. The first generation of his family were represented by his grandparents, William and Isabel (Welch) Eckels, who came as pioneers to Portage County and located first at Plover and soon afterwards bought 160 acres of land in Buena Vista Township. The grandfather also acquired eighty acres more and some swamp land and a considerable part of this underwent clearing and cultivation during his lifetime. He died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. William Albertie, on an adjoining farm, October 22, 1868, when eighty-five years old. His wife passed away on the old homestead, April 9, 1867, aged seventy-six. Their family of children, with dates of birth, is briefly noted as follows: Susanna, born May 18, 1809; Charles, November 21, 1810; Dorcas, February 4, 1813; John, April 16, 1815; Christian, April 13, 1817; Joseph, July 19, 1819; James, May 27, 1822; William, Jr., December 12, 1824; Irvin and Elizabeth, March 20, 1827. Grandfather Eckels and wife were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He voted for many years with the whigs and afterwards was a republican.

William Eckels, Jr., father of Charles I., was born in Ohio December 12, 1824, and came to Portage County with his parents. He was a farmer here on the old homestead, and after the death of his father acquired that place and made it the scene of his industrious career until his death on March 2, 1877. He married Harriet A. Bennett, who was born in New York State September 18, 1835. She has survived him many years and is now living with her children. William Eckels, Jr., was a republican in politics and for several terms was supervisor of Buena Vista Township. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They had only two children, Charles I. and Minerva I., the latter born May 5, 1873. She

is now the wife of W. R. Johnson, of Wausau, Wisconsin, and the mother of four children, named Raymond, Charles, Harold and Ruth.

Charles I. Eckels grew up on the home farm in Buena Vista Township, and acquired his education in the public schools. He was only fourteen when his father died and after that he practically assumed the management and operation of the home farm. Later he became owner of the property, consisting of 240 acres. He still owns 120 acres of the old place and has also acquired 120 acres additional, giving him 240 acres situated in sections 17, 18, 19 and 20. Much of the improvement and building have been done under his management. In 1913, when his barn was destroyed by fire, he immediately replaced it with a substantial building. As a general farmer and stock man he specializes in grade and thoroughbred dairy cattle. Mr. Eckels is a republican and has served as a member of the school board of his district. He is affiliated with the Order of Beavers. He and his wife are active in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

September 3, 1891, he married Miss Sarah O. Warner. Mrs. Eckels was born at McDill in this county September 13, 1865, daughter of Amasa O. and Nancy V. (Gilmore) Warner. Her father was born at Cabot, Vermont, December 31, 1825, and her mother was born at Bedford, New Hampshire, September 8, 1828. Her father for a number of years was a foreman in carpet mills at Lowell, Massachusetts. He and his wife were married at Manchester, New Hampshire, October 16, 1851, and on April 4, 1857, arrived in Portage County, locating at Plover. Later he acquired a farm near McDill in Plover Township and was busily engaged with his work as a farmer and as a good citizen of the county for nearly fifty years. He died in October, 1905, and his wife on February 21, 1896. Their children were: Oliver, who died in infancy; Elizabeth died in infancy; Lester Fremont, of Stevens Point; Myra A., wife of William Stanley (Young) of Stevens Point; Fred B. and Frank M., twins, the former of Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, and the latter of Milton Junction, Wisconsin; and Sarah, Mrs. Eckels.

Mr. and Mrs. Eckels have two children: William Clair, born August 24, 1892, and Myra, born September 9, 1894. The son was educated in public schools and Marathon County Agricultural School and is now handling most of the responsibilities of the home farm. On January 27, 1915, William C. Eckels married Laura M. Webster, daughter of Chester S. Webster, a prominent Portage County citizen elsewhere referred to. They have one child, Webster Gilmore, born November 4, 1915. The daughter Myra was well educated in public schools, is a graduate of the Wausau High School and attended the Stevens Point Normal. On February 17, 1917, she became the wife of Robert Perry Petersen, of Amherst Township.

**EDMOND FROST.** Of the families of Portage County whose industry and activities have contributed materially to the prosperity of the community one of the most highly respected is that which bears the name Frost, and which has figured in the agricultural uplift and improvement of Linwood Township for almost forty years.

Edmond Frost was a youth of eighteen when he came with his parents to Portage County from Fond du Lac County, where he was born September 14, 1861. He is a son of James and Betsey (Bigford) Frost. His father was born in England in 1830 and his mother in New

York State in 1832. In 1844, when Wisconsin was a territory and when Fond du Lac was a community comprising four rough houses, these people came to Wisconsin and identified themselves with that little hamlet, living there continuously until 1879, when they made their entry into Portage County. Here they located on eighty acres of land in Linwood Township, and that land, which has since undergone many improvements, is now occupied by Claude Frost, their grandson and a son of Edmond Frost. James Frost did much to improve his land in Portage County, put up some good buildings, and in 1892 the barns were destroyed during a severe forest fire. Fortunately the house was spared. James Frost died at Black River Falls, Wisconsin, in 1905, and his wife passed away in 1900. He was a republican and they were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They had only two sons, Edmond and Robert, the latter a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Edmond Frost had his education in the public schools of Fond du Lac. He was old enough to take a very spirited and active part in the development of the farm when his parents came to Portage County in 1879, and in 1883 he bought 160 acres of land of his own in section 18. Since then his possessions have been on the increase and today he is one of the large farmers of the county and has 360 acres under his control. His building improvements are of a superior character, and as a dairyman he has long made Linwood Township a contributing factor in the volume of milk products of Portage County. At present he has a dairy of twenty-five cows, but formerly had a herd of from thirty to forty. He makes it a point to keep the highest grade of animals, his stock being all Guernseys, and he has the reputation of producing the best milk in the township.

In politics Mr. Frost is a republican, and for three years has been chairman of the township board. For thirty years he was treasurer of his school district, and anything affecting the welfare of the community, especially in regard to education, never failed to receive response from him and his efforts. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and is a member of the Church of Christ.

October 25, 1883, Mr. Frost married Miss Emma Athrop. She was born in Grand Rapids Township, Wisconsin, December 9, 1860, daughter of Uriah and Harriet (Fredrick) Athrop, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Massachusetts. The Athrops were early settlers of Grand Rapids Township in Wood County, Wisconsin, and her father followed farming and lumbering. He died about 1895, at the age of seventy-five, and her mother passed away in 1903, aged seventy-four.

Mr. and Mrs. Frost have a family of six children, brief records concerning each of whom are as follows: Lizzie, born in December, 1885, married November 12, 1907, William Beecher and their two children are Merlin and Edmond. Myrtle, the second daughter, was born July 11, 1887, and is still at home with her parents. Claude, previously mentioned as a farmer on the homestead of his grandparents, was born November 20, 1888, married in June, 1912, Beatrice Hulze, and his two children are named Fern and Donald. Robert, born August 7, 1893, married May 20, 1917, Miss Margie Church. Bessie, born August 2, 1895, became the wife of Henry Neiman on November 25, 1914. The youngest of the children, Hattie, was born

March 29, 1901, and is a student in the State Normal at Stevens Point.

**JOHN CARL STOLTENBERG.** During his many years of active manhood spent in Portage County John Carl Stoltenberg has rendered valuable services to the business affairs of the community in several different lines. He is a blacksmith by trade, had a shop a number of years, later became an expert in the management of creameries, and finally devoted his best energies to practical farming. He is now living retired, but still has his home on the old farm in New Hope Township.

Mr. Stoltenberg was born on his father's homestead, near Nelsonville, a son of Charles and Anna Stoltenberg. His father was a native of Germany, came to the United States a single man and in the early '50s settled in Portage County. At Stevens Point he was married, his wife being a native of Norway. He then acquired a tract of land now within the village limits of Nelsonville and began making a farm in the midst of the woods. After many years of hard toil he developed a valuable farm, and he and his wife enjoyed all the substantial comforts of material existence and also had a high esteem in their neighborhood because of their worthy lives and the influence for good which radiated from their home. In their family were five sons and two daughters, John C.; Anna, Mrs. Charles Hankey; Carl M., who died at the age of twenty-six; Andrew; Henry; Louisa, who died at the age of twenty-six; and Edward W.

John Carl Stoltenberg grew up on his father's farm and after an education in the common schools started out for himself, learning the trade of blacksmith at Nelsonville and in Amherst, being employed by the same man in both places. After mastering his art he opened a shop for himself at Nelsonville, and for about twenty years was the leading man in that business and had a patronage that extended all over the surrounding country. He finally sold his shop to his brother Henry, who learned the trade under him. From blacksmithing Mr. Stoltenberg turned to the creamery industry. He acquired a knowledge of the business at Nelsonville, and then took charge of a creamery at Plover for one year. Following this he had the supervision of the erection of the plant and the installation of the machinery in the Garfield Creamery, and managed the entire business for a period of seven years.

While he had reason to be well satisfied with his success as a business man Mr. Stoltenberg had ambitions to become a farmer and after leaving the Garfield Creamery he bought sixty acres of land in New Hope Township. Later he added forty acres more and he continued to work and improve the land until he retired and gave up the heavy routine of farm duties.

In 1882 he married Miss Sina Walden, a native of New Hope Township, and a daughter of Ole Walden. Mr. and Mrs. Stoltenberg have five children: Albert; Casper of New Hope Township; Joseph, a resident of Crookston, Minnesota; Arthur, who is now enrolled in the United States Army; and William, of New Hope Township. John C. Stoltenberg was one of the original members of the Nelsonville Lutheran Church.

Albert O. Stoltenberg, his oldest son, was born September 12, 1884, at Nelsonville and is now accounted one of the most progressive and

enterprising young farmers and business men of the township. He attended the Nelsonville public schools and also took a commercial course in the Valparaiso University at Valparaiso, Indiana. After a practical experience as a farm worker and in the lumber woods he engaged in farming for himself in 1912 on his father's old place, and is now proprietor of that well equipped hundred acre farm, which bears favorable comparison with any place in that community. He is something of a specialist in farming, and one of his reliable sources of profit has been the raising of certified seed potatoes. He also keeps a herd of graded Holstein cattle. While a hard worker and always busy with his own interests, Mr. Stoltenberg has served three years as township treasurer.

In September, 1911, he married Jennie Kankrud, a member of the well known Kankrud family of Portage County, referred to on other pages. Mrs. Stoltenberg died in the fall of 1916, the mother of three children: Marion Clifford, Julius Irving and Stella Beatrice.

MYRON L. BARDEN has found his work and has profited from his business as a farmer in Plover Township. He is one of the highly respected residents of that locality, and in the estimation of his friends and acquaintances has already done much in his useful career to justify any reasonable expectations of his success in the future.

Mr. Barden was born in Buena Vista Township of Portage County July 20, 1887, son of Myron and Lillian (Hutchens) Barden. His mother was a daughter of Henry and Diana Hutchens, who were pioneers of Portage County and both now deceased. Myron Barden, Sr., was born in New York State in 1846 and came to Wisconsin with his parents, Merritt and Lucy (Barden) Barden, who first settled in Dodge County and later came to Portage County, where they spent their last years. Myron Barden, Sr., has been a successful farmer in Linwood County for many years, and has a well cultivated place of eighty acres there. He is a democrat, but office holding has not been in his line. He and his wife had the following children: Harry, deceased; Diana; Myron; James; Lucile and Theodore.

Myron L. Barden grew up on his father's farm and his education came from the local schools. He has been a diligent worker since attaining the full strength of manhood and has a thorough practical knowledge of farming in all its branches.

October 14, 1914, Mr. Barden married Miss Anna Lutz, member of one of the old and prominent families of Portage County, daughter of Andrew Lutz, Jr., to whom more extended reference is made on other pages. Mr. and Mrs. Barden are now farming forty acres of the old Lutz homestead in Plover Township. In politics Mr. Barden is independent and is now serving as treasurer of his home school district.

LANCELOT ARNOLD GORDON undoubtedly has the distinction of being one of the youngest if not the youngest county superintendent of education in Wisconsin. He took up the responsibilities of that office for Portage County on July 2, 1917, when only twenty-two years of age. Mr. Gordon has distinguished himself in educational affairs in Portage County and is noted not only for his work as an individual teacher but as an administrator and supervisor since his induction into his present office.

Mr. Gordon was born at Amherst Junction in this county February 2, 1895, son of Martin L. and Belle (Helgeland) Gordon. His father was born in New Hope, Portage County, and his mother in Harmony, Minnesota. The paternal grandparents, Lars E. and Maren Gordon, were both natives of Norway, and soon after coming to this county established themselves in Portage County and homesteaded a farm in New Hope Township. The grandmother died on that farm, and the grandfather is still living, a resident of Nelsonville, and one of the honored old timers of the county. Superintendent Gordon's maternal grandfather was Andrew Helgeland, who on coming to the United States located in Minnesota, where he was among the pioneers of the northwest frontier. He married in Harmony, Minnesota, and his wife soon afterwards died there, and he has ever since lived on his farm at Harmony.

Martin L. Gordon was born in 1872 and his wife in 1873. He was well educated, attending Wittenberg Normal School and for one year taught in Minnesota. On returning to Portage County he was a merchant at Amherst Junction with M. P. Kjer, was then agent for the Milwaukee Harvester Company, and then conducted a saw mill and planing mill at Nelsonville. Since 1912 his home has been at Stevens Point and he has been rural mail carrier on route No. 4 out of that city. While living in Nelsonville he served as a member of the school board. He and his wife had seven children: Lancelot A.; Troy, who also has a mail route out of Plover; Royal, principal of the Amherst Junction Schools; Gladys, attending Normal School; and Laurin, Irving and Arvie, who are still at home.

Lancelot A. Gordon received his early education in Nelsonville, finished in the eighth grade there. In 1913 he graduated from the Stevens Point Normal, and the following year taught the seventh and eighth grades of the public schools of Friendship, Wisconsin. In 1915 he became connected with the Merrimack Schools and was there two years, leaving that position to enter upon his duties as county superintendent. He is now in United States Army Officers Training School in Saumur, France.

Mr. Gordon is an active member of the Lutheran Church and his grandfather helped establish that church at Nelsonville.

**WILLIAM GLISCZINSKI.** Among the families that have helped forward the remarkable economic transformation by which the waste lands of Portage County were reclaimed and converted into productive fields and a smiling landscape of happy homes, a place of prosperous usefulness, belongs William Glisczinski, now a retired resident of Stevens Point. His record may be read with profit and inspiration by all who have when young people to face the world practically alone and with only their unaided efforts to bring them the things their ambitions desire.

Mr. Glisczinski was born in German Poland May 28, 1840, a son of Joseph and Eleanor Glisczinski. His father died in Poland in 1855, when William was only fifteen years old. The widowed mother many years later, in 1877, came to America to join her son William in Stockton Township, and she died there in advanced years in 1886. Her children were seven in number, Barney, Antoinette, Magdalene, Constance, Cordelia, William and Prexeda.

William Glisczinski grew up in his native country, had such ad-



*Wm. Hisejinski*



vantages in the way of education as were permitted the youth of that land, and some years after reaching manhood, in 1868, came to America, first locating at Chicago. From there he moved to Stevens Point and used his sturdy energy as an efficient worker in saw mills and the lumber woods. He carefully safeguarded his earnings and about 1871 was able to contract for the purchase of a farm of 120 acres in Stockton Township. The face of the land far from presented the attractive and highly cultivated appearance it does today, and there remained before him many years of hard work to make the land productive and build home and other buildings. Mr. Glisczinski still owns that farm and remained in active charge of its cultivation and management for over forty years. On April 14, 1914, he retired and removed to Stevens Point, where he and his family have a fine home at 1226 Main Street. He is a democratic voter and with his family is a member of St. Stanislaus Polish Catholic Church.

On May 22, 1872, Mr. Glisczinski married Miss Mary Prondznski. She was born in German Poland November 11, 1855, and was thirteen years old when in 1868 she came with her parents to America. Her parents located at Berlin, Wisconsin, where her mother, Catherine Prondznski, died in 1882, at the age of forty-seven. Her father then moved to Polonia in Portage County and lived there until his death November 8, 1913, at the advanced age of eighty-nine. Her parents had the following children: Polena; John, who died in infancy; Joseph, who lived in Sharon Township of Portage County; Mary; Mrs. Glisczinski; Margaret; Helen; Henry; Nicholas; Paul; and John.

Fourteen children were born to the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Glisczinski, namely: Josephine; Frank; Charles; Joseph, who died at the age of twenty-six; Ambrose; Dennis; William; Henry, who died at the age of twenty-five; Mary; Helen; Anna and Margaret, twins; Stanley, who is now with an artillery regiment and at last account was on his way to France; and Bernhard, who died in infancy.

The financial success which Mr. and Mrs. Glisczinski have gained is all the more creditable for the large family they have reared and these sons and daughters constitute a splendid contribution to the citizenship of the nation. Of their fourteen children eleven are still living, and all of them were well educated. It is a family to be proud of. Mr. and Mrs. Glisczinski have now lived together as man and wife for forty-six years, and it is their hope and the hope of their many friends that they may celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

**MARK EDWIN BRUCE.** That enterprise which enables a man to make the best of his opportunities and push himself ahead as one of the useful workers of the world has been abundantly exemplified in the career of Mark Edwin Bruce, whose position as a citizen of Stevens Point hardly requires any description for the present generation, who recognize his abilities and leadership and appreciate the work he has done for himself and his community during more than forty years of residence here.

Mr. Bruce was born in New York State November 20, 1857. His parents were Nathaniel P. and Rhoda (Bourne) Bruce, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of New York State. The mother died in New York in 1859, when the son Mark E. was only two years

old. Nathaniel Bruce was a Union soldier, a member of the First United States Cavalry, in the early months of the Civil war, but in the spring of 1863 he received a discharge on account of disabilities. In June, 1863, he came west to Dodge County, Wisconsin, and in November of the same year his other children, including Mark E., followed him to this state. There were six children, five still living. Nathaniel Bruce passed away July 27, 1914.

Mark Edwin Bruce had to be satisfied with the opportunities of the rural schools of Wisconsin, and even those he could enjoy regularly only to the age of thirteen. After that he worked as a farmer boy and his rugged strength and agility soon made him useful in the lumber woods and he practically followed the occupation of lumberjack until he was forty years of age. Mr. Bruce has been a citizen and a resident of Portage County since December 18, 1875, and the only interruption to this continuous residence was three years spent at Merrill.

Since retiring from the lumber industry Mr. Bruce has handled various business enterprises. On December 1, 1897, he established the Bruce Hotel, one of the leading hostelrys and houses of public entertainment at Stevens Point, and has continued it for twenty years. In 1913 he built and established the Strand Theater in Stevens Point. He is also interested in farming and various other enterprises of the county.

On April 12, 1885, Mr. Bruce married Miss Margaret Le Mieux, who was born in Portage County, and is a daughter of one of the most interesting pioneer characters of this section of Wisconsin, Peter Le Mieux, who came to Stevens Point in 1847. History gives him credit as being the first man to plant potatoes north of Berlin, Wisconsin. He was also the first man to operate a rotary saw in Wisconsin. For thirty-eight years he conducted a saw mill on the Little Eau Claire River in Portage County, but spent his final years at Stevens Point. When Mr. Le Mieux came to Stevens Point on October 4, 1847, the village contained only three houses. Peter Le Mieux married Elizabeth Cook, whose father, John Cook, came to Stevens Point from New York State in 1856 and, a carpenter by trade, had the contract for building and constructing the First Methodist Church of Stevens Point. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce have three children: Howard A., Mrs. Catherine F. Gregory and Walter R.

Mr. Bruce is secretary of the Old Settlers Club of Portage County. He has been a member of the school board four years, is a member of the Civic and Commercial Club, and as chairman of the Red Cross Committee he organized and led the campaign through Portage County which stood out as one of the most successful campaigns in the entire state when the results were considered with relationship to the population and the wealth of the county. Mr. Bruce is affiliated with the Masonic Order, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Order of Beavers and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

OSCAR OREN PENNEY. When one's life has been passed among the familiar surroundings which constitute his home, it is but natural to take pride in such a heritage and find added pleasure in its care and improvement. In Portage County pioneer names are usually associated with such properties, and one of these in Amherst Township has been in the Penney name for over a half century, and since he was

four years old has been the home of Oscar Oren Penney, one of Portage County's substantial and highly respected citizens.

Oscar Oren Penney was born in the Village of Weyauwega, Waupaca County, Wisconsin, November 26, 1858. His parents were George W. and Eliza (Chapman) Penney, both of whom were early settlers with their families in this section. George W. Penney came as early as 1852. He was twice married and one daughter of his first marriage survives, Henrietta, who is a resident of Michigan. After his marriage to Eliza Chapman they settled in Weyauwega and resided there until 1860 and then moved to a farm of eighty acres which Mrs. Penney had bought from the government, and this farm remained the family home and both parents died here, the mother of Oscar O. Penney willing the farm to him at her death.

Many changes have taken place all over this and other states with the passage of almost sixty years, and very remarkable ones have come about within Mr. Penney's memory in the village and the Township of Amherst. When he was a boy there were comparatively few people living in the village and school opportunities were very limited. A few stores had been started in order to supply the scattered settlers with necessities, and a mill had been built and was owned by A. H. Bancroft. This mill, remodeled and enlarged, is still doing business here and is one of the old landmarks. For a number of years modern machinery for farm purposes was almost unknown in this section, and the farm work was generally carried on with oxen. Mr. Penney's father used oxen exclusively and even after he became a farmer for himself Mr. Penney utilized these slow-moving but strong animals in the clearing of land and subsequent cultivation. Gradually, however, as pioneer farming was developed it became what it is today, a civilized science on which the prosperity and even life itself may depend. Wisconsin farmers with others accepted the prevalent new ideas, and it is safe to say that in no part of the country is agriculture making such rapid strides as it is among the wide awake, intelligent and progressive farmers of this state.

Mr. Penney is an example of this class. To his original eighty acres he has added and now owns over a hundred acres of valuable land, carrying on mixed farming and devoting much attention to high grade Holstein cattle. He has about fifty acres under the plow, the rest being in pasturage and timber. His farm equipments are first class and his buildings entirely adequate. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

L. J. CAREY. In the early fifties many new settlers came to Wisconsin, following its admission to the Union in 1848, and attracted by the wealth of opportunities offered to homeseekers. Many men with growing families were willing to face the certain hardships of pioneer life in the new state in the hope of providing better chances for their children than could be secured at that time in the over populated eastern states. One of these pioneers was the late Peter B. Carey, father of L. J. Carey, one of Amherst's representative business men who for many years has been prominent in public life in the village.

L. J. Carey was born in Jefferson County, New York, in 1852. His parents were Peter B. and Julia E. (Whitney) Carey, members of old and respected New York families and people of good influence

throughout their lives. The beloved and honored mother of Mr. Carey is a cherished inmate of his home at Amherst, but his father died some years since on his farm in Amherst Township in Portage County. In 1853 the Careys came to Rock County, Wisconsin, from Jefferson County, New York. Mr. Carey desired a farm and before he found land to suit his purposes several removals were made, the family going to Manitowoc County from Rock, from there to Calumet County, then to Lanark Township in Portage County and finally to Amherst Township, Portage County, where Mr. Carey bought a farm located south of the village. To Peter B. Carey and wife the following children were born: Lyman, L. J., Charles, Jay, Isabel, Sarah, Elmer and Frank.

L. J. Carey was an infant when his parents brought him to Wisconsin and this state has been his home ever since, a state he has served with good citizenship and one in which he takes just pride. He attended the public schools and gave his father assistance on the farm during his youth and was engaged variously until 1896, when, in partnership with Doctor Dusenbury, he bought the undertaking and furniture business conducted at Amherst by Fred Wesley. The above partnership continued for four years, when Mr. Carey bought Doctor Dusenbury's interest and has since conducted the business alone, making many changes and introducing modern methods. When Mr. Carey went into business the firm occupied a building 60 by 20 feet, while now he has floor space given by a building 104 by 32 feet. He carries a large stock of dependable furniture, having the largest furniture store in the place. While Mr. Carey is a graduate of no undertaking school, he learned his business by practical experience and has an embalmer's license. He is well equipped as to funeral specialties and has appropriate hearses, carriages and cars, in every way giving assurance of suitable, quiet and dignified funeral ceremonies.

Mr. Carey was married in 1874 to Miss Mary Augusta Greenman, who was born in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, and is a daughter of William Greenman, a prominent farmer in that section. Mr. and Mrs. Carey have had three children, namely: Morris N., Etta J., who died in infancy, and Tina G. The son in later years has taken an active interest in business with his father.

Few citizens of Amherst have been shown more public appreciation than Mr. Carey. Again and again he has been called to serve in offices of responsibility, where business acumen and a proper sense of justice are requisites, and the duties of these offices have been performed faithfully and efficiently. Mr. Carey at present is village supervisor and he has been village president, village treasurer and treasurer of the village school board. When the solid, substantial men of Amherst take council together in any emergency Mr. Carey is certain to be one of those present. He is a valued member of the Odd Fellows at Amherst and belongs also to the Modern Woodmen of America. By devout parents he was reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church and to this organization both he and wife belong.

WILLIAM W. GREGORY. It has been indeed more than an ordinary service rendered to the people of Portage County by two generations of the Gregory family as physicians and surgeons. The older doctor, of revered memory, the late Dr. Levi M. Gregory, exerted his skill and exercised his benignant human personality and sympathy among

some of the very first settlers of the county. He practiced for a long period of years, and before he was taken away by death his son, Dr. William W., had qualified and had begun to serve some of the children of his father's old patients.

The late Dr. Levi M. Gregory arrived in Portage County as early as 1850. He was at that time unmarried, and just fresh from his medical studies and with a medical diploma from Western Reserve University at Cleveland. He practiced medicine at the Village of Plover until 1886, when he removed to Stevens Point, and there continued to answer the insistent calls of his older patients up to the very end of his life, which came in 1902. He married in Portage City Miss Olive Sophia Babcock, who had come to this county as a girl. She died at Stevens Point in 1895. They had two children, Mrs. Frances Darling, who died in 1910, and William W.

Dr. William W. Gregory was born at the Village of Plover in Portage County September 16, 1869. From boyhood he determined to emulate the splendid service rendered by his father in the medical profession, and all his energies were concentrated upon a thorough preparation that he might be a worthy successor to the older Gregory. He was educated in the public schools of Plover and Stevens Point, graduating from the high school of the latter city, and in 1897 had the well merited degree of Doctor of Medicine conferred upon him by Rush Medical College of Chicago. He at once returned to Stevens Point and for twenty years now has enjoyed a large and profitable general practice. He is a member in good standing of the County, State and District Medical Societies and the American Medical Association. He is also affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1909 Dr. Gregory married Miss Mary A. Porter, of Portland, Maine. They have one daughter, Olive Sophia.

JOHN N. EBERT. One of the valuable country homes of Portage County in Amherst Township is that of John N. Ebert. This land has an interesting history. Sixty years ago it was just one part of the unbroken wilderness of Central Wisconsin. The trees were cut down, the stumps were removed, the brush cleared away, the plow was first sunk under the surface, the first houses and building improvements were made, and from first to last the land represents the toil and studied efforts of the Ebert family. John N. Ebert himself was born there, and he has largely followed in the footsteps of his father, though from time to time he has adapted himself to modern methods and has given a distinctive air of modern efficiency to the farm.

Mr. Ebert was born in Amherst November 25, 1861. He is a son of Adam and Mary (Hahn) Ebert, both natives of Germany. The father is now deceased and the mother is living in the village of Almond, with her daughter, Mrs. Fred Boelter. As one of the first settlers in Amherst Township Adam Ebert homesteaded his land from the government. His first holding was forty acres and there in the midst of a small clearing he built a log cabin and a small barn. Adam Ebert for several years used oxen to farm and transport his goods, but finally was able to afford horses. He was a man of great thrift and energy and with the co-operation of his good wife not only maintained a good home but was able to increase his holdings as a land

owner and eventually had about 200 acres. He and his wife were the parents of ten children: Mrs. Maggie Damrau, of Amherst; Mrs. Louisa Boelter, of Almond; John N.; Mrs. Lizzie Holtz, of Adams County; Adam, who lives in North Dakota; Herman, a resident of Oasis, Waushara County, Wisconsin; Mrs. Clara Boushley, of Buena Vista; Mrs. Anna Heinrich, of Amherst; Mary, who died at the age of nineteen, and Dora, who died in childhood.

John N. Ebert grew up on the old home farm, was educated in the local schools and his hard work and earnest purpose finally enabled him to buy the homestead from his father. He now owns about 225 acres and with the exception of about thirty acres of native timber he has nearly all of it under the plow, producing crops. Recently Mr. Ebert has begun the formation of a herd of full blooded Holstein cattle. Since he bought the farm he has built a commodious brick home and he also has one of the best equipped barns in the township, which he also built, with a large s'lo nearby. While his father used oxen to drag the plow and carry his grain to market, Mr. Ebert is up to date and drives an automobile over the fine roads of the county. At one time as a side line to his farming enterprise he operated a threshing outfit. He is a member of the Farmers Co-operative Association, and owns a share in a Chicago property known as the Consumers Stores Company, and also owns shares in the American Co-operative Association.

In 1892 Mr. Ebert married Louisa Oatball, daughter of Fred and Mary (Jager) Oatball. Both her parents are now deceased, the mother having spent her last years with Mr. and Mrs. Ebert. Mr. and Mrs. Ebert have a happy family of young people about them, five in number, named Ernst, Gertrude, Henry, Carl and Walter. The oldest son, Ernst, and second son, Henry, are on the list of men drafted for service in the National Army, but at this writing have not been called to camp for training.

Mr. Ebert takes an active interest in everything affecting the welfare of his home locality, is a member of the school board, supervisor of the town board, and is active in the Lutheran Church at Amherst. He was formerly a member of a fraternity but has given up his lodge duties. Among other interests he has shares in a local creamery and the Telephone Company at Amherst.

FRED E. WEBSTER, M. D. For more than a quarter of a century the people of Amherst, Wisconsin, have found in Dr. Fred E. Webster a skilled physician, an honorable citizen and a dependable authority on all matters pertaining to the public health. Devoted entirely to his profession, he has kept thoroughly abreast with the times and is well acquainted with the marvelous advances his science is making in modern days. In every walk of life, because of his knowledge, skill, courage and humanity, the physician stands a step higher than his fellow men, and at the present time it may be asserted that there is no more heroic figure on duty in embattled Europe than the doctor, and there can be no one with nobler aims. Both in peace and war these aims to ameliorate suffering, to lessen mortal agony, to make men whole once more, are cherished by all the great-hearted physicians of the land, but while the outlook may be encouraging in some directions there are yet many savage enemies to overcome before universal health can crown medical effort. In this great work in his section no

man of medical science has shown more professional zeal than has Doctor Webster. Fred E. Webster is a native of Portage County, Wisconsin, and was born on his father's farm near Amherst August 24, 1862. His parents were Enoch and Lydia H. (Fletcher) Webster, both of whom were of New England ancestry and were born in Maine. They came to Racine County, Wisconsin, in 1845, moving later to Ripon in Fond du Lac County. The father engaged in farming there until 1857, when he took up government land in Amherst Township, Portage County. Enoch Webster, however, was too active and enterprising a man to feel entirely satisfied with the small opportunities afforded himself and family on a pioneer farm, and hence in 1865 he moved into the village of Amherst, where his vitalizing influence was soon felt in business and politics. In the course of time he became a dominating personality in Portage County.

When Mr. Webster came to Amherst it was little more than a hamlet. He embarked in the mercantile business and as his establishment was the leading business house of the place he was appointed postmaster and served as such for the following eighteen years. In the meanwhile he was elected many times to local offices, serving as township clerk for an extended period, and for many years was a justice of the peace. He became a party leader and was elected to the State Legislature. Prior to the organization of the republican party he was a democrat but after that event he was a strong republican. He was a helpful factor in all the early enterprises of Amherst. He was the father of eight children, namely: Charles E., John N., Azuba, Augustine, Emilie, Dora, William A. and Fred E. His two eldest sons, Charles E. and John N., served as soldiers in the Civil war, the former being a member first in a Minnesota and later in a Wisconsin regiment. Both these sons are deceased.

Fred E. Webster was but three years old when his parents came to Amherst and this has been the home of his choice ever since. His father was a patron of education and the schools therefore of the village were farther advanced than in some other communities. The youth secured a sound foundation in the home schools and then attended the normal school at Oshkosh, from which institution he was graduated in 1887. He had already made choice of career and entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated with his degree of M. D. in 1891. Doctor Webster immediately opened an office at Amherst and during the years that have followed has built up a professional reputation that is recognized far beyond this flourishing town. He is a member of the Portage County, the Wisconsin State and the National Medical Societies.

Doctor Webster was married in 1898 to Miss Gertrude Lewis, who was born at Custer, Portage County, Wisconsin, and died at Amherst in 1902. Doctor Webster was married second, in 1909, to Miss Etta Berger, who is a native of Michigan, a lady of many social accomplishments and of engaging personality. Fraternaly Doctor Webster is identified with two of the leading organizations of the country, the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. A busy physician has little time for recreation, but Doctor Webster approves of out-door sports, although, perhaps, his patients take more enjoyment out of them than the good Doctor allows himself.

A. M. YOUNG is doing a successful business and making himself valuable to the community of Stevens Point as a shoe merchant and conducts one of the best stores handling that class of merchandise in Portage County.

Mr. Young was born in 1883, at Jonesburg, Montgomery County, Missouri. His father, W. H. Young, was born in St. Charles County, Missouri, and for many years did a large business as a stock buyer and feeder. He is still living, now retired from business, and a resident of New Florence, Missouri. W. H. Young married Ida Kenner, who was born at St. Louis, Missouri, in 1865. The parents are members of the Presbyterian Church.

A. M. Young was reared and educated in Montgomery County, Missouri, graduated from a collegiate institution at Warrenton in that state, and as a young man went to the northwest and for two years traveled in and out of Portland, Oregon. On returning east he was a traveling salesman for three years over Illinois and Wisconsin, and for four years he was one of the energetic business getters for the Selz Shoe Company. In 1910 he located at Stevens Point and assumed the proprietorship of the Selz Shoe Store in this city, and has since operated that store and developed a high class business.

In 1903, at Portland, Oregon, Mr. Young married Miss Minnie Chandler. They have one child, Carl Burford, born in 1909 and now attending the public schools of Stevens Point.

HENRY G. LUTZ is doing a successful business as a country merchant and farmer at Meehan Station in Plover Township, and his long residence there combined with his activities and influence make him a man of mark in the locality.

He represents a family that has been identified with this section of Wisconsin for more than half a century. His grandparents were Andrew and Elizabeth (Gaber) Lutz, who in 1855 brought their family from Baden, Germany, to America. Arriving in New York City, Andrew Lutz found a brief employment in that city, but soon came westward to Milwaukee and not long afterwards settled in Almond Township of Portage County. He bought a farm there and was occupied in its tillage until about 1868, when he removed to Stevens Point and acquired the local brewery. He finally sold that business and then lived retired until his death in 1900, at the age of seventy-eight. His wife died in 1912, aged eighty-nine. They were one of the most venerable couples of Portage County, and in 1804, six years before their marriage bonds were broken by death, they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Their children were: Andrew, Jr.; Elizabeth, Mrs. Jacob Messing, of Princeton, Wisconsin; John, deceased; Gustav, of Stevens Point; George, of Stevens Point; Mary, widow of John Ernst; and Jacob, of Stevens Point.

Andrew Lutz, Jr., was born in Baden, Germany, April 4, 1845, and was ten years old when brought to America. He grew to manhood on the old farm in Almond Township, and from that locality when twenty years of age enlisted in the Union Army in Company K of the Forty-Sixth Wisconsin Infantry on February 6, 1865. He was in the closing months of the war, and was mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee, September 27, 1865. Following the war he settled on the farm in Almond Township, but later came to Stevens Point, and was in business in that city for about ten years as a livery-



man, conducting a good establishment on Strong Avenue. He finally sold his stables and returning to the country bought a farm in Plover Township. He had a very large place there of 320 acres and was always noted for his good management whether of farming or of other business matters. He died at the home of his daughter Mrs. Anna Barden May 20, 1917. Andrew Lutz, Jr., married Minnie Krohn, who was also born in Germany. She died April 23, 1913. They were active members of the Lutheran Church. Their children were four in number. Charles, of Stevens Point, who married Emma Huckie, and they are the parents of two children, Gertrude and Gregory, and also have one grandchild by the marriage of Gertrude to Stanley Winarski. Frank, the second child, lives at Stevens Point and has a daughter, Fern, by his marriage to Elizabeth Brown. The third child is Henry G. Anna is the wife of Myron Barden, of Plover Township.

Mr. Henry G. Lutz was born on his father's farm in Almond Township of this county April 1, 1878. He grew up as a farmer boy, had the advantages of the public schools, and his early substantial successes were gained as an agriculturist. Mr. Lutz owns one farm of 120 acres in Plover Township near Meehan Station and also another place of eighty acres. In 1914 he bought a store at Meehan and now sells general merchandise to the people of that section as well as handling his general farm and stock with a high degree of efficiency. Mr. Lutz is an independent voter and has never sought any of the official honors of his community. He was reared a Lutheran.

In 1905 he married Miss Cora Fowler, who was born in Plover Township in 1880, daughter of Henry and Mary Fowler, early and well known settlers of that township. Her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Lutz have four children: Hilda, Mildred, Erma and Verma.

EDWARD S. THORPE has been a substantial citizen for many years, a farmer by occupation, and is chairman of the board of supervisors, now in his second term.

He was born in the village of Glenbeulah in Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, August 16, 1859, son of Elihu and Martha (Hile) Thorpe. His father was born in Connecticut in 1835 and his mother in the same state in 1837. His father came to Glenbeulah, Wisconsin, when a young man and from that community he enlisted in 1861 in Company B of the famous Eighth Wisconsin Infantry. He was in service almost throughout the war, three years and three months, and made an honorable record with one of the finest regiments sent from Wisconsin to the war. After the war he located at Glenbeulah, afterwards was proprietor of a sawmill at St. Cloud, Wisconsin, for ten years, and in 1880 moved to Eau Pleine Township of Portage County, where he bought eighty acres of land. His son Edward still owns part of that farm. The father finally retired from the farm and spent his last years at Milladore, Wisconsin, where he died in December, 1913. His wife passed away two weeks later aged seventy-six. They were married at Glenbeulah. Their children were: Edward S., Nora, Lydia, deceased, Sarah, Moses, John and William, deceased.

Edward S. Thorpe grew up and received his early education in Glenbeulah. When he was fifteen years old he went out to Kansas and after five years returned to Wisconsin and joined his father in Eau Pleine Township. He took up farming there and during every season for a period of fifteen years was identified with the lumber

business, either as a log driver on the river or in the woods. Mr. Thorpe owns 120 acres of land in sections 28, 29 and 33 and manages it as a general farming proposition.

He is a republican in politics. For about eighteen years he has served as school clerk and is now in his second year as chairman of the board of supervisors. He was first appointed to this office, was successor to D. L. Hunter, and the following year was elected. Mr. Thorpe's father was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Thorpe's parents are Methodists while he is a man of liberal religious views. In 1903 at Eau Pleine he married Miss Lillie Martin of Racine, Wisconsin.

**JACOB DORSHA.** If there is any substantial citizen of Portage County who has earned all he possesses by virtue of hard work it is Jacob Dorsha of Buena Vista Township. Mr. Dorsha is a carpenter by trade. As a result of several years of employment in this line he was able to buy in 1880 eighty acres in sections 27 and 34 of Buena Vista Township. It was necessary to cut a road in order to reach the land. It was unbroken stretch of woods and brush, and every acre had to be cleared before it could be put into cultivation. This required a number of years, since he had to depend upon his trade to give him a living, and he followed it during the day and often worked far into the night in developing his farm. Mr. Dorsha now has one of the best farms in that township, comprising 120 acres, and his buildings are high class and substantial in every particular, his own skill having entered into their construction. He devotes his land to general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Dorsha was born in Erie County, New York, about sixteen miles from Buffalo, on January 31, 1865. He is a son of John and Catherine (Esse) Dorsha, the former born in Germany February 4, 1830, and the latter in France January 21, 1833. They came to America as children, and married at Strykersville in Erie County, New York State. For nineteen years John Dorsha worked in a tannery there, rolling leather. John Dorsha enlisted and served three years in Company F of the Forty-Third Wisconsin Infantry. He was long an honored member of Plainfield Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. He and his wife established their home in Portage County in 1866, and in the following year located on eighty acres of land, where he lived until his death, April 2, 1912. His widow died November 11, 1917. They had been married for fifty-seven years. They were the parents of eleven children.

Jacob Dorsha was brought to Portage County when a child, and grew up here, attending the old Keene School in Buena Vista Township. At the age of twenty-two he started to work at his trade, and followed it until he could do independent farming. Mr. Dorsha is an independent in politics, and his only office has been as a director of the school board.

In January, 1880, he married Miss Sarah Turrish, who was born at Wilmington, Delaware, in 1863, and came to Portage County with her parents, James and Catherine Turrish, in 1867. Her father and mother settled in Buena Vista Township, where they spent their last days. Mr. and Mrs. Dorsha have one son, Charles Henry, born on the old homestead in 1897. He was educated in the public schools and is still on the home farm. Mrs. Dorsha died February 20, 1917.



*N. M. Urbanowski*

**NICODEMUS MICHAEL URBANOWSKI.** There are a number of fine people living at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, who are prosperous in business because of their industry and honorable dealings with others, kind neighbors, good church members and worthy citizens. Such people help build up a community and are welcome wherever they may settle. A well known merchant at Stevens Point is Nicodemus Michael Urbanowski, who belongs to the above class. He was born in this city September 4, 1879, and is a son of Michael and Anna (Orlowska) Urbanowski.

The father of Mr. Urbanowski was born in Poland and the mother in Germany. When he was nineteen years old Michael Urbanowski came to the United States, landing in the port of New York. He was in that city but a short time, going then to Pennsylvania, where he worked until he had earned the means to get to Portage County, Wisconsin, where he found almost a wilderness, and on the present site of Stevens Point Indians were living. He found work in the lumber regions and on the river and for some years was a sawyer in the woods. He became known as a reliable, industrious man and was made foreman of the old Riley & Bosworth sawmill in Stevens Point and continued in that position until the mill shut down. For some time afterward he was employed in scaling lumber for the old Wisconsin Central Railroad, which line of work he still follows, being employed as a scaler for the box factory at Stevens Point. He was one of the original members of St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church and also one of the original members of St. Peter's Society, and both he and wife have always been very active in church and society work. They reside at No. 722 Union Street, Stevens Point and are respected by all who know them.

Michael Urbanowski was married at Polonia, Wisconsin, to Anna Orlowska, who came to America with her father and her step-mother, her own mother having died in Germany. Her father lived to be a very aged man and died in 1910 in Wisconsin. A family of twelve children was born to Michael Urbanowski and his wife and the following survived infancy: Max, Nicodemus M., Mary, John, Antone, Peter and Katie.

Nicodemus M. Urbanowski attended the parochial school at first, later the public schools at Stevens Point and still later took a course in a business college. With the example of his industrious father before him, he grew to useful manhood, finding employment in the box factory, also in a sawmill and in the lumber camps, where he worked for the old Wisconsin Central. Afterward, for six years, he was a clerk for H. D. McCulloch and was promoted to be head clerk and as such remained with that employer for five more years. In 1909 he embarked in business for himself and now has a fine store at No. 106 Public Square, where he carries a big stock of groceries and deals also in flour, feed and seeds.

Mr. Urbanowski was married to Miss Johanna Kujawa, who was born at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, March 24, 1880. Her parents were Frank and Julia (Reszczyński) Kujawa, natives of Poland, where the father was born September 1, 1833, and the mother, May 7, 1841. The father of Mrs. Urbanowski came to Portage County in 1857 and the mother in 1856 and they were married at Polonia, Wisconsin, September 13, 1867, and had the satisfaction and pleasure of celebrating their golden wedding anniversary on September 13, 1917.

Not only did their family enjoy the occasion with them but also a wide circle of friends in the neighborhood where they are well known and highly esteemed. They reside with Mr. and Mrs. Urbanowski in their old homestead at No. 719 North Second Street. Of their children but two are living, Alexander and Johanna. Alexander married Mary Spalanka of Stevens Point, who is a sister of Frank Spalanka, mentioned favorably in this work. They have the following children: Mary, Alban, John, Helen, Clara, Anna, Emily, Alexander, Edmund and Genevieve.

In politics Mr. Urbanowski, like his honored father, is a democrat and he takes much interest in public affairs, particularly in relation to the well-being of Stevens Point, and for the past two years he has been alderman representing the Fourth Ward, for a still longer time has been a member of the school board, and also member of the Police and Fire Commissioners. As children Mr. Urbanowski and wife attended school together and today she is his cheerful helper in conducting their large business, their store usually being a busy place. They both are active members of St. Peter's Catholic Church and the church society, and in this connection, as elsewhere, are valued for their sterling qualities.

**WILLIAM AUSTIN ONAN**, a practical farmer and stock raiser in Buena Vista Township, represents two of the pioneer families of Portage County.

He is the only son of the late Warren Albert and Zoa (Boursier) Onan. His father was born in New York State in 1847 and his mother was born in Stockton Township of Portage County in 1851, daughter of John and Mary Boursier, who were among the first settlers in that locality. The paternal grandfather, Charles Onan, brought his family to Wisconsin in 1854, and about 1861 settled in Portage County, where he and his wife both died. Warren A. Onan grew up in that state, and in 1870 bought the land where his son now lives in Buena Vista Township. It was then wild and uncleared, and from year to year he increased the area of cultivation, built and remodeled house and barn, and at the time of his death in 1911 had surrounded himself with many comforts and a very valuable property. His wife died in 1901. Warren A. Onan was a republican and served on the school board. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He and his wife had five children, four daughters and one son, Mary, Lenolia, Iva, Agnes and William Austin.

William Austin Onan was born on the farm where he now resides December 2, 1885. He has spent all his life here, and after getting his education in the public schools went to work looking after the fields and crops. He now owns the old homestead of 230 acres, and is giving a good account of his stewardship as a general farmer and stock raiser and dairyman. He has a herd of excellent cattle and is helping raise the aggregate of agricultural standards in the county.

**JOHN PETERSEN**. A quarter of a century of residence in Portage County has brought John Petersen far along the road of success and substantial prosperity and also the high esteem of his community in Belmont Township. His home is in section 2 of that township, where he has a farm that will bear favorable comparison with the best of the township or county. For about fifteen years Mr. Petersen has

specialized in high grade Red Polled cattle and other livestock. His farm is improved with most modern buildings, and the Petersen family lack practically none of the advantages city people enjoy. They have their own automobile, a garage, ice house, a gas light plant, and comfort and convenience are in evidence on every hand.

Mr. Petersen came to this country a poor boy dependent entirely upon his own resources. He was born January 4, 1860, in Denmark, being one of eight children. His father, Peter Jacobson, was a farmer and weaver in Denmark. John Petersen had a public school education in his native land, and lived there the first twenty years of his life. With the idea and determination of bettering his fortunes he started for the New World, taking ship at Copenhagen April 9, 1880. He went to England and a short time later started across the ocean and landed at New York May 8th. He had to borrow the money to pay his passage. His destination was Waupaca, Wisconsin, and from there he came to Belmont Township of Portage County and for two years worked on the farm of J. P. Rasmussen, whose daughter he subsequently married. From Portage County he went west to Iowa and bought a farm in Webster County, and he and his brother Hans conducted it together for a number of years.

In 1893 Mr. Petersen returned to Portage County and on the 24th of March of that year, at Waupaca, married Miss Anna Rasmussen. She was born in Belmont Township of Portage County, daughter of James P. and Johanna M. (Nelson) Rasmussen. Since his marriage Mr. Petersen has been chiefly identified with farming in Belmont Township and his good management and constant industry have brought him all that he now enjoys. He owns 240 acres of valuable land and has every year added to its improvements and value. In politics he is a republican and has always been a loyal member of the Lutheran Church and liberal in supporting church and other worthy causes.

Mr. Petersen lost his first wife in October, 1905. They had six children: Carl W., Emil J., Harold F., Henry F., Gilbert F. and Clarence. The three younger sons are still at home. Mr. Petersen has the proud distinction of having two of his sons fighting the cause of liberty in the present great war. Carl W., who was born February 19, 1894, and his younger brother, Emil J., are both with the American armies at Camp Grant. The son Harold, who completed his education in Busheys' Business College at Appleton, is now a bookkeeper for Segal Company at Appleton.

April 6, 1910, Mr. Petersen married for his present wife Mrs. Sylvia M. (Olin) Eastman. Her first husband, William Eastman, died October 14, 1904, leaving one son, Gerald. Mr. and Mrs. Petersen have two children, Arnold Howard and Marvel Alice.

**INGBRGT THORSKE.** This section of Wisconsin has received from no foreign country a greater number of good citizens than those that came from Norway—sturdy, industrious, reliable people who because of their sterling character are welcomed in every section where they have chosen to locate. Among the many fine citizens in Portage County of Norwegian birth or parentage one is Ingbrgt Thorske, who has been a resident of Stevens Point for over thirty-five years.

Mr. Thorske was born in Norway November 18, 1856, and was reared and educated in his native land. His parents were Eric and

Gertrude Thorske, both of whom died in Norway in 1896, the mother in August and the father in the month of October.

Ingrigt Thorske, the youngest in a family of seven children, has given practically all his life to one vocation and industry. When fourteen years old, in 1870, he began learning the painter's trade. He worked at his trade in Norway and when he arrived at Stevens Point in 1881 he almost immediately made a connection as painter with the Wisconsin Central Railway. For twenty years he was on the staff of painters employed by that railway system, until the headquarters of this department were moved to Fond du Lac. Since then Mr. Thorske has continued to follow the trade privately, and through that work has rendered his best service to the business world.

Since 1903 Mr. Thorske has lived in his comfortable home at 1011 Normal Avenue. In politics he is independent and has never sought the excitement or the honors of public affairs. He is a member of the Lutheran Church. In 1885 he married Miss Emma Petersen, who was born in Norway and was brought to Stevens Point when a young girl. She died August 20, 1892, at the age of forty-three. Mr. and Mrs. Thorske had three children: Gertrude, the oldest, is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and is now the wife of Mr. Sebo and lives in Spokane, Washington. They have one child, Winifred. Ella, who was educated in the Stevens Point High School and the State Normal School, was a successful teacher, connected with the schools of Stanley for three years, and then located at Spokane, Washington. She married Lieut. S. Paulson, stationed at Camp Grant. Emmons, the youngest child, was educated in the Stevens Point High School and is a painter by trade and working with his father. Mr. Thorske is affiliated with the Knights of the Maccabees.

ALPHONZO CROFOOT, a resident of Portage County over sixty years, a veteran of the Civil war, and long identified with farming and civic affairs, was born at Burr Oak, Michigan, October 3, 1845.

His parents were Erastus and Lophelia (Moss) Crofoot, both natives of New York State. They were pioneers of Burr Oak, Michigan, and lived in the southern part of that state until 1855, when they came to Portage County. The first winter here they lived with her parents, Elisha and Harriet Moss, who were among the earliest settlers of Buena Vista Township, where they spent their last years. In 1862 Erastus Crofoot and wife moved to Almond Township, but in 1864 returned to Buena Vista, where they spent their last years. Erastus died May 1, 1893, aged seventy-five, and his wife in 1896, aged seventy-six. The oldest of their children is Fannie M., who was born in 1841, and is the wife of S. P. Thorn, a Civil war veteran. The second child, Alphonzo A., died in infancy. The next children were Alphonzo and Alphonsa, twins, the latter dying at the age of eight years. Sarah, who was born March 17, 1849, married Joseph Puariea, and among their children is Mrs. Charles Newby of this county. Modestus M. lives at Wagner, Montana, and was born February 9, 1859.

Alphonzo Crofoot grew up in Buena Vista Township and at the age of eighteen, on August 25, 1864, enlisted in Company A of the 42nd Wisconsin Infantry. He was mustered into the United States service September 1st of the same year and was on duty until the close of hostilities. Returning to his home township he bought forty acres,

and was identified with its management and cultivation until 1883, when he moved to the farm where he now lives near Liberty Corners. This land formerly belonged to his wife's father, Joseph Ward. Mr. Crofoot has forty acres in his home place and owns forty acres in another part of the county. In politics he has steadily supported the republican party, and served as supervisor one year and assessor one year. He is affiliated with the Grand Army Post and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

December 11, 1870, Mr. Crofoot married Miss Emma J. Ward. She was born in Nauvoo Township, Hancock County, Illinois, December 10, 1851, daughter of Joseph and Mary Ann (Brown) Ward. Her parents arrived in Plover Township of this county in 1856, and subsequently located on the farm where Mrs. Crofoot now lives in Buena Vista Township. Both the Crofoot and Ward families had as their early homes here log houses typical of the time. Joseph Ward died August 17, 1883, and his wife February 12, 1891. Mrs. Crofoot was the only child of her parents.

FRANK A. LASECKI has been a resident of Portage County over thirty-five years, for nearly a quarter of a century has been a merchant at Stevens Point, and has found his life crowded with opportunities and has used them with discretion and ability. The success that has come to him as a merchant has been used in a public-spirited manner to enable him to do his part in community affairs, and he is recognized as one of the leaders in civic life in his home city. His name is one that well deserves mention in any history of Portage County.

Mr. Lasecki was born in German Poland September 7, 1862, son of Michael and Mary Lasecki. About 1867, when he was five years old, the family immigrated to America, living in New York a few years, later going to Detroit, Michigan, and in 1880 coming to Stevens Point. Michael Lasecki lived here until his death in 1898, when about eighty years of age. His wife, who died in 1893, also attained the age of about fourscore. They were members of St. Peter's Catholic Church.

Frank A. Lasecki, only son and child of his parents, received his education in parochial schools of New York State and DeKalb, Michigan. He was eighteen when the family came to Stevens Point, and was thus capable of doing a man's work from that time forward. His first enterprise was as a farmer. He bought forty acres of land in Hull Township, and two years later acquired another forty acres, giving him eighty acres for his management and cultivation. He remained a farmer there about three years, and then returning to Stevens Point took up a business career, having his chief experience as clerk in the clothing store of Mr. Cohen, now a prominent business man of Milwaukee. He did clerical work for several years and on July 22, 1894, engaged in business for himself as a grocery merchant. He has steadily built up a trade, has satisfied all the demands of good merchandising, and in 1909 he built a fine business block at 601 North Second Street, this being the best business structure on that thoroughfare. It is a two-story building, 50 by 75 feet, the lower floor being devoted to his grocery, meat market and general merchandise, while the second floor furnishes excellent facilities for a public hall and other meetings.

Mr. Lasecki is a leader in the local democracy of Stevens Point.



He is now and for several years has served as chairman of the election board. He is a charter member and trustee of the Special Military Guards of Stevens Point and has taken a very active interest in arousing the community to the need of adequate military preparation. He and his family are members of St. Peter's Catholic Church.

April 26, 1891, Mr. Lasecki married Miss Catherine Zagrzebski. Mrs. Lasecki was born in Pennsylvania, daughter of Alexander and Amelia (Maslowski) Zagrzebski. Her parents were born in German Poland, came to America and settled in Pennsylvania, and from there moved to a farm in Hull Township of Portage County, where they now reside.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Lasecki were born seven children: John, the oldest, was educated in parochial schools and in business college, and by his marriage to Frances Krymkowski has one child, Kazmir. Regina, who was educated in the parochial schools, is the wife of Edward Lewandowski of Fairfield, California. Agnes attended both the parochial and public schools and is the wife of August Kuper, of Stevens Point. The younger children are Mamie, who has finished her education in the parochial and public schools; Florian, now a student in the Stevens Point High School; Frank G. and Edmund, who are still in the parochial schools.

REV. ELI CROFT GEAR has been a greatly esteemed resident of Stevens Point since he came here as rector of the Church of the Intercession, Protestant Episcopal.

He was born in Waterford, near London, Ontario, Canada, July 22, 1881, a son of Edmund and Susan (Harris) Gear, both natives of Canada. His maternal grandfather, John Harris, was a soldier in the Crimean War, and afterwards came to Canada and died in Chicago about 1898, when eighty years of age. His children were named John, Jesse, Emma, Isabelle and Susan. Rev. Mr. Gear's paternal grandfather, Eli Gear, came from England and located on a farm in Canada, where both he and his wife died. Their children were: Loftus, Albert, Henry, Ada, Annie and Edmund. Edmund Gear moved with his father to Chicago in 1897, but is now living at Green Bay, Wisconsin. He was a merchant tailor in Canada, and is now retired. He and his wife had two children, Rev. Eli C. and Ethel. Ethel is the wife of George H. Sheffers, of Green Bay, Wisconsin, a merchant tailor. She is the mother of three children, George Henry, Jr., Robert Gear and Kenneth Lawrence.

Eli C. Gear was educated in the public schools of Canada, including the high school at Norwood, Ontario, and was sixteen years old when his parents moved to Chicago in 1897. He went to work for the People's Gas Light and Coke Company, and at the same time pursued preparatory studies in the Ancient Languages at Lewis Institute. In 1905 he graduated from the Western Theological Seminary and was ordained a deacon in the same year and was ordained priest in November, 1905, in the Cathedral at Chicago under Bishop Charles Palmer-ton Anderson. During a part of his student days and while a deacon he had charge of the church at Morrison, Illinois. Later he was assistant rector of Trinity Church at Chicago, where he remained about fifteen months, and his first independent charge was as rector of the Church of the Holy Communion at Maywood, Illinois. He was there a little more than four years. For the next two years he was rector of St. Andrew's Church of Chicago, the church of which he had

been a member while a student. On December 6, 1912, Rev. Mr. Gear came to Stevens Point as rector of the Church of the Intercession. He has done much to signalize his progressive labors in this community. In 1915 he built a parish house. Fraternally he is affiliated with Evergreen Lodge No. 93, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Rotary Club. In February, 1901, he married Miss Annie Davie, a native of Canada. They have four children, Ethel Christina, Edna Victoria, Alice Helen and Eli Croft, Jr.

MARTIN HEFFRON is a Portage County farmer who has not contented himself entirely with the routine handling of lands and crops and livestock. If there is a business farmer in Portage County it is Mr. Heffron. Everything he undertakes is done in a businesslike way, with an efficiency above the average. He is one of the principal dairymen of Stockton Township, and during his lifetime has played many parts and every one effectively. Some of the positions of public responsibility in his locality have been given him successively for so many years that his friends have almost lost track of a time when he was not thus honored.

Mr. Heffron was born in Stockton Township on the old Heffron homestead October 22, 1855. He is a son of Matthew Heffron, and is a brother of John J. Heffron of Stevens Point, one of the leading real estate men of that city. Concerning the establishment of the family here in pioneer times, and many other interesting particulars, the reader is referred to other items on other pages of this publication.

Martin Heffron grew up on the home farm, had a public school education, and since reaching his majority has been busied with many private and public interests. For about fifteen years he was associated with his brother John in the real estate business. Probably no other man is better informed on conditions in Portage County as a potato production center than Mr. Heffron. When a very young man he was associated with Charles Brady of Buena Vista in potato dealing and together they erected the first potato warehouse at Bancroft.

Besides owning the old Heffron homestead Mr. Heffron some years ago bought the old John Linn farm of 220 acres just across the road from the Heffron farm. The Linn farm contains 200 acres of dry land and twenty acres of marsh and 175 acres are under the plow. Mr. Heffron has done much to improve this land in various ways, has erected one of the fine modern country residences, also a tenant house, and the old Linn home was constructed many years ago. He believes thoroughly in the practical value of the silo as an adjunct of cattle feeding, and owns two of those preservers. He also has substantial barns and everything is arranged and equipped for the utmost efficiency in handling stock. Mr. Heffron has milked as many as thirty head of cows, and is the largest patron of the Stockton creamery. His cows are high-grade Holsteins, some of which have met the highest standards of the milk test and general productiveness and all around quality.

In politics Mr. Heffron is a democrat. When he was twenty-one years old he was elected township clerk, and held that office successively for twelve years. The office which has known him longest is that of school treasurer of district No. 7 in Stockton Township. He was elected treasurer of the district when he was twenty-one and has now

held it for an aggregate period of forty-two years, a record which is probably unequalled in any other county of the state. Mr. Heffron is a member of the Catholic Church and is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus.

In 1899 he married Miss Ellen Dawson, who was born in Stockton Township in 1865, daughter of Michael and Catherine Dawson, early settlers of that township, now deceased. Mrs. Heffron was well educated in the public schools, also in the State Normal, and was one of the county's popular teachers for a number of years.

Mr. Heffron served three years as a member of the County School Board of Education, until the law affecting that office was changed. For four years he was a member and director of the Amhurst Telephone Company. It is only stating the truth to say that Mr. Heffron has one of the best farms in Stockton Township, some of the best buildings, and his own work as a farmer is completely consistent with the equipment he possesses and uses.

**WILLIAM WALLACE TAYLOR.** Primarily the business of the druggist is the compounding of drugs, and he marches hand in hand with the physician in public service, but in modern days a drug store, in order to keep pace with the times, must not only offer the skill and chemical knowledge of the registered pharmacist and the purest of drugs in all their marvels of combination, but his stock is not considered complete without many commodities far removed from the actual field of drugs. Modern druggists also are called upon for many services to the public for which they receive no remuneration in a financial way, and that they make so few protests, comparatively, speaks well for their accommodating spirit and general amiability. A registered druggist occupies an important position in a community in the matter of public health, and his community standing is equal to that of the physician who entrusts prescriptions to him that often mean life or death.

One of the representative business men of Stevens Point is William Wallace Taylor, who is owner and proprietor of two drug stores in this city, one of these being located at No. 111 Strong Avenue, and the other at No. 752 Church Street.

William Wallace Taylor entered the public schools at Sparta and subsequently was graduated from the high school, and when his choice of career had been made he became a student of pharmacy in the University of Wisconsin, where he remained for one year, continuing his studies in this line in the University of Illinois, where he was graduated from the department of pharmacy in 1891. These few words cover a very important part of his life, one in which he not only acquired a very comprehensive knowledge of a difficult profession, but made acquaintances and formed friendships that continue to this day. After completing his education he was employed for several years as a druggist for different firms, but in 1897 embarked in business for himself, locating at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, where he has become the leading druggist and one of the most progressive citizens, ever ready to co-operate in public movements when they commend themselves to the sober judgment of sound business men.

Politically Mr. Taylor is a republican and had political advancement been his ambition, through the confidence that his fellow-citizens feel in his trustworthiness, he might have frequently been the recipient of public honors. He has contented himself, however, with being

diligent in business, upright in character and generous in the cause of charity and thereby finds contentment and happiness. He is identified with the leading fraternal organizations, being a member of Evergreen Lodge No. 93, Free and Accepted Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, all at Stevens Point.

**GILBERT PETERSON.** One of the substantial farmers and well-known citizens of New Hope Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, is Gilbert Peterson, who was born in this township April 11, 1871. His parents were Peter Gunderson and Gwen (Olson) Peterman, who came from Norway many years ago and were early settlers in Portage County, where the father yet lives.

When the father and grandfather of Gilbert Peterson came to this section they found a wild country and few settlers. They were hardy men prepared to battle with the wilderness, courageous and independent and asked favors of no man. They desired land on which to build permanent homes and in turn were ready to assist in the general improvement that would, in time, change the waste places into fertile farms, and to uphold the laws that insured their peace and gave them opportunity. Norway sent many such sound, stable early settlers to Wisconsin and they and their children make up a large body of this great state's best citizenship. Peter Gunderson and his father secured large tracts of land, cleared the same through persevering industry, and both improved their properties with substantial buildings. They were hard workers, careful in their methods, frugal in their manner of living, were kind and neighborly and brought up their children to prize and value education and to follow the religious teachings of the Norwegian Lutheran Church. Such were the ancestors of Gilbert Peterson, who deserved the great respect always accorded them.

Gilbert Peterson attended the public schools in New Hope Township through boyhood and then became his father's main helper on the farm. The home place was land that the grandfather had once owned and had been bought by Mr. Peterson's father, and this land has always remained in the family, Gilbert Peterson subsequently purchasing it from his father. There are 160 acres here and the place is well improved. The soil is so well adapted to the growing of potatoes that Mr. Peterson devotes his main attention to these tubers, for which there is always a great demand. When, for any reason, the potato supply fails, the whole country becomes clamorous for what has become in most households a daily article of food. Mr. Peterson has made a study of potato growing and with the thoroughness that marks all his farming operations makes the business satisfactorily profitable.

Mr. Peterson was married in December, 1891, to Miss Anna Guthro, who is a daughter of Peter and Bertha (Anderson) Guthro, formerly farming people in Alban Township, where the father of Mrs. Peterson died. Mrs. Guthro survives. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have four children, namely: Belma, who is Mrs. Christianson; Mrs. Clova Anderson; and Agnes and Gilman, who are twins. The family belongs to the New Hope Lutheran Church. Mr. Peterson has some other interests than his farm, and is one of the stockholders in the creamery and is a member of the school board. He is a good citizen but has never been very active in a political sense.

**THOMAS HOWEN.** The occupation of farming has always claimed the attention of Thomas Howen, who is an extensive and successful general agriculturist of Amherst Township, where he is the owner of 120 acres. A large part of this land was cleared by Mr. Howen himself, and its buildings, which add to the property's attractiveness and value, were erected by him. Not only has Mr. Howen been prominent as a farmer, but as a factor in the civic life of the community, and on a number of occasions his fellow-citizens have evidenced their faith in his integrity and ability by naming him as a candidate for public offices.

Thomas Howen is a native son of Portage County, having been born on a farm in New Hope Township December 10, 1862, his parents being Peter and Taran (Loberg) Howen. His father was born in Norway and was a young single man when he came to the United States in 1848, his first location being in Waukesha County, where he remained several years. He then moved on to Dodge County, Wisconsin, where he met and married Taran Loberg, who had come to this country in 1849 from her native Norway, and in 1853 they moved to Portage County, by boat and train, and took up land from the United States Government in New Hope Township. This they cleared and improved, made a comfortable home for themselves and their children, and rounded out lives of honor and usefulness in the pursuits of agriculture. They assisted in the organization of the New Hope Norwegian Lutheran Church, which they attended before a church edifice had been erected and when services were held in the schoolhouse. This worthy couple were the parents of the following children: John; Bertine, deceased; Nickolina, deceased; Julius, deceased; Ida; Petra; Thomas; and Hannah, deceased.

Thomas Howen was educated in the district schools of New Hope Township, and was brought up to habits of honor and integrity, early learning the value of industry and being taught the various lessons necessary for the successful pursuit of agriculture. He remained under the parental roof, assisting his father, until his marriage in 1886, at which time he left home and started farming on his own account, on the property which he still owns in Amherst Township. When he located on this land about half of it had been cleared, and he has since completed the clearing and cultivation and has developed one of the best and most productive farms of its size in the locality. This is located just north of the village of Amherst and is conveniently situated, with good transportation facilities, and as Mr. Howen is a good business man he is able to take advantage of the opportunities furnished by good market facilities. His buildings are a model of their kind. The 120 acres are devoted to the raising of the staple products of this part of the state, and his stock is of a good strain, while his machinery and implements are of the best and latest manufacture.

Mr. Howen was married to Miss Helen Skowen, who was born in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, daughter of Lars Skowen, for many years an agriculturist, but living in retirement at the home of his son-in-law. Mr. and Mrs. Howen have been the parents of seven children: Palmer, Myrtle, Belma, Nora, Edna, Florence and Thomas, Jr., all of whom are living except Belma, who died at the age of nineteen years. The family belongs to the Lutheran Church. Mr. Howen has long been one of the active democratic leaders in his locality and has fre-

quently been called to local offices which he has filled ably and conscientiously. He has also been a candidate for county offices and for the Wisconsin Legislature but has failed of election to these posts because his party has always been in the minority in Portage County on the occasions when he has been on the ticket.

**MISS CARRIE J. FROST.** What is at once one of the most successful and one of the most interesting business establishments at Stevens Point is that which bears the name of the founder and developer, Miss Carrie J. Frost. Were it not so well known, and were the proprietor not so modest and unassuming a business woman, there would be a long story connected with this business.

It is proper to state, however, that twenty years or more ago Miss Frost began indulging the tastes and fancy of her honored father, a real Izaak Walton, in perfecting certain types of fishing tackle which he believed requisite to the best success in the art of angling. Miss Frost also saw that she had to make a living in the world and being able to please the exacting tastes of her father she started making fishing tackle for others, and thus laid the basis of a business which has since grown and prospered until she is now giving all her time to the executive direction and management of a plant whose products are known and used by fishing folk, whether the humblest or the most exacting connoisseurs in the art, all over the Middle West, not to say all over America.

Miss Frost is a native of Wisconsin, born in the city of LaCrosse, and a daughter of the late John C. and Caroline (McMeekins) Frost. Her father was born at Auburn, New York, August 24, 1835, and her mother at Philadelphia April 5, 1840. Her parents married in the East and on coming west settled in LaCrosse soon after the war. Later they moved to Minnesota, locating at Wells, in that state. John C. Frost was a veteran in the railroad service, but for the last ten years of his life was semi-retired and helped his daughter, Miss Carrie, to develop her business. The family came to Stevens Point in 1885. John C. Frost died in 1914 and his wife in 1916. They were the parents of ten children: John, Charles, Edward, Joseph, Austin, Carrie J., Florence, George, Edith and Walter. All are still living except Edward, Florence and Walter. The late John C. Frost was an active republican. His wife was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Miss Carrie J. Frost was educated in the public schools of Minnesota, and graduated from Stevens Point High School. As already stated she had her first experience in making fishing tackle for her father, and gradually used the skill of her hands and her critical judgment to make tackle for commercial purposes. In 1895 she had the business well started and erected a good brick building on Ellis Street to accommodate her working force. In 1917 a handsome new two-story brick building was erected near the original quarters, and she now has two large buildings, with offices thoroughly modern in every respect. About 150 people are employed, and this is a business which has grown up and developed and is Miss Frost's contribution to the business enterprise of Stevens Point. Her chosen work has made her modestly wealthy, and she has every reason to be proud of her success.

Miss Frost, who resides at 418 Brawley Street, is an active member

of the Presbyterian Church and has taken a great interest and part in Red Cross work.

**JOSEPH KAMROWSKI.** A business of long and honorable standing at Stevens Point, one that has furnished a splendid service and has been a source of value both to the community and the men behind it, is located at 301 Normal Avenue and 123 North Second Street, and is tersely described under the following business title: Felix Kamrowski, Joseph and Frank Kamrowski, managers, embalmers and undertakers, manufacturers of church furniture, store and office fixtures, mirrors, plate and window glass.

It was established by the late Felix Kamrowski, who came to Wisconsin more than forty years ago. He was born in German Poland June 17, 1837, and immigrated to America and located on the north-west frontier at Winona, Minnesota, in 1863. He came to America in consequence of a revolutionary outbreak in Poland in which he was involved. He was a cabinet maker by trade and in 1875 removed to Trempeleau County, Wisconsin, and established a business as a general merchant at Pine Creek. He was there until about 1884. His wife died at Pine Creek January 23, 1883. Her maiden name was Mary Kolasinski, who was born in German Poland in 1857. They were married at St. Cloud, Minnesota, and their children were Joseph, Felix, Johanna, Frank, Rose and John. Later Felix Kamrowski married Veronica Richert, who was born in German Poland, and became the mother of the following children: Mary, Stanislaw, Bernard, Angeline, Michaelina, Clara and Anna. Anna is now deceased.

In 1885 Felix Kamrowski came to Stevens Point. Here he was engaged in the jewelry, wall paper and art store business until his stock was destroyed by a fire in 1893. He then resumed his work as a cabinetmaker and set up a shop for the manufacture of church and office furniture and also engaged in the undertaking business. He remained the active head of the business until his death on July 23, 1913. In politics he was an independent democrat and worshiped in the Catholic faith.

After the death of the father the active managers of the business became his sons Joseph and Frank. Joseph Kamrowski was born at Winona, Minnesota, May 28, 1875. He was educated in the public schools, including the high school at Stevens Point. He worked for his father and learned the business, and had excellent qualifications to become one of its managers. He is independent in politics, a member of the Catholic Church and unmarried.

His brother Frank Kamrowski was born at Pine Creek, Wisconsin, June 12, 1880. He was educated in the Stevens Point public schools, and for some time was employed at Minneapolis and was in the furniture business. He is independent in politics, a member of the Catholic Church and is also unmarried.

**ALMER JAMES LOBERG.** The name of Loberg is a very familiar one to residents of Portage County, for it has been honorably borne here for several generations, both in peace and war, and has been identified very prominently with the affairs of Nelsonville.

Almer James Loberg, merchant and postmaster of Nelsonville, and at present being still further distinguished as a gallant soldier in the United States Army, was born at Nelsonville, Wisconsin, April

29, 1890. His parents were Lars Larson and Oline (Rustad) Loberg, and his grandparents, Lars and Ingeborg Loberg and Simon and Sidel (Land) Rustad, all of whom were born in Norway. The maternal grandmother died in her native land but the others came to Nelsonville and the aged ones died at the home of Lars Larson Loberg. They were among the early settlers in this section of the state, quiet, industrious, useful people.

Lars Larson Loberg was born in Norway in 1842 and was thirteen years of age when his parents came to Wisconsin and located on Pike Lake. They remained there only a few months and then, by team, came to Portage County and settled in New Hope Township, where they secured Government land, which they cleared and developed. When President Lincoln issued his call for soldiers to fight to preserve the Union, one of the first to respond in his section was Lars Larson Loberg, who enlisted in Company B, Forty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in which he bravely served until the close of the struggle. He returned home practically unharmed and on September 27, 1867, was married to Oline Rustad, who was born in Norway in 1847 and accompanied her parents to Wisconsin when seven years old and they located at once in New Hope Township of Portage County. Mrs. Loberg survives and is one of Nelsonville's most highly respected residents and a faithful member of the Lutheran Church.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Loberg located on a farm in New Hope Township, where he owned 280 acres. He was a good business man and acquired a large amount of property, having a second farm, containing 150 acres, situated nearer Nelsonville, together with much village property. He built his store building and bought a meat market building and put up a number of other business structures in Nelsonville. He passed the last thirty-five years of his life in this village, for twenty-one years being its leading merchant. He was recognized as a man of sterling character and of superior judicial mind, and for many years he was on the board of jury commissioners. In the founding of the early business and other worthy enterprises at Nelsonville he was very helpful and was one of the organizers of the first church here. His death occurred April 14, 1917. His children, nine in number, all survive except two, as follows: Clara, who is deceased, was the wife of Carl Doxrude; Emma, who is the wife of George Larson, of Amherst Junction; Ida, who is the wife of Olaf Swenson, of Nelsonville; Anna; Lewis Oscar, who died at the age of three years; Effie, who is the wife of Charles Sorbye, of Nelsonville; and Oscar, Irving and Almer, all residents of Nelsonville. Irving is now in France with the Three Hundred and Eleventh Field Signal Battalion.

Almer James Loberg was educated in the public schools of Nelsonville and afterward gave his father assistance in the mercantile business and succeeding to his father's interests and continuing the business at the same location, had very favorably impressed his fellow citizens and received the appointment as postmaster. In the exigency of the times he was called for a time to a wider field and those who know him well predict further honor and promotion as his due and many there are who will take a deep interest in his future.

Mr. Loberg was married June 9, 1917, to Miss Ruth Keeper, of Nelsonville.



LEONARD NETZLEY has been a resident of Portage County since 1883. He has made a success as a farmer and he and his very capable family have one of the good homes of Linwood Township. In earlier years Mr. Netzley had a varied experience both in the city of Stevens Point and in outside occupations.

Mr. Netzley is a native of Chicago, Illinois, where he was born September 5, 1878, a son of Linous and Agnes (Kern) Netzley. His father was born March 24, 1852, in Cook County, Illinois, when its principal city, Chicago, was by no means so extensive and expansive as it is today when it covers nearly the entire area of that county. His wife, Agnes Kern, was also born in Chicago, August 1, 1858. In 1883 the family moved to Portage County and settled in Linwood Township on the old Knox farm, where the old Knox mill once stood. Here Linous Netzley bought 500 acres of land and was successfully engaged in farming until November, 1905, when he removed to California and has since busied himself with the responsibilities of an orange and lemon ranch in that state. He is a member of the Dunkard Church and in politics his record might be described as that of an independent republican voter. His wife's father, Julius Kern, maternal grandfather of Leonard Netzley, is also remembered as one of the older residents of Linwood Township. He lived there about ten years and then moved to Frankfort, Indiana, where he joined a brother in the carriage manufacturing business. He also served as county sheriff several times. He finally went out to California and died in that state in 1909, when about seventy years of age. His wife died at Chicago in 1870. She was a native of Ireland. Linous Netzley and wife have ten children, named Leonard, Mabel, Adelaid, Isabel, Raymond, Bertrand, Arthur, Joseph, one that died in infancy and Viva. Arthur died at the age of six years and Joseph when aged twelve months.

Leonard Netzley grew up on the farm in Linwood Township from the time he was five years of age and acquired his education in the public schools. Some of his early experience was acquired as a worker in the paper mills, and another employer was Fred Ball, the liveryman of Stevens Point. For a number of winters he followed the arduous occupation of the lumber woods.

Mr. Netzley bought his present farm in 1909. This farm consists of 144 well cultivated and improved acres lying in sections 15 and 16 and six miles from the county seat. Here Mr. Netzley is busily engaged in raising crops and good stock, and has an important share in the industrial activities of his community. Politically he is a republican, and in 1917 was honored with the office of township supervisor. Mrs. Netzley is a member of St. Stephen's Catholic Church of Stevens Point.

On December 2, 1903, Mr. Netzley married Miss Catherine Bowersock. She was born in Stevens Point October 22, 1884, daughter of Winfield Scott and Susan (Mess) Bowersock. Her parents came to Stevens Point in 1877. Her mother died there June 15, 1915, at the age of sixty-seven, and her father is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Netzley, but still owns his home in Stevens Point. Mr. Bowersock is a veteran of the lumber woods and spent twenty-five years in that industry. Mrs. Netzley was one of five children: Winfield; Wallace Henry, of Milwaukee; Catherine; Bessie; and William, of Linwood Township. Six children have come into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Netzley, all still living but one. Their names are Susan, Dorothy,

Doris, Agnes, Pierman Leonard and Blanche. Dorothy died when seven months old.

A. A. PETERSON. The time has long since gone by when the application of science to agriculture aroused doubt, and in no part of the United States has science more thoroughly revolutionized farming and its kindred industries to a greater extent than in Wisconsin. No longer in intelligently settled counties like Portage are the old methods tolerated, but, on the other hand, the wide awake farmers of this section are sending their sons to agricultural colleges and lending them to experiment stations that they may learn and be trained in the new ways of farming and stockraising. The results are apparent; the farmers accumulate wealth from their fields, their high grade stock rule the market and agriculture has become one of the most interesting professions to which men can apply themselves.

One of the modern farmers and well informed representative men of Amherst Township, Portage County, is A. A. Peterson, who resides on the farm on which he was born September 20, 1856. In the spring of that year his parents, Adam and Anna (Brotten) Peterson, came from Norway to the United States, and immediately made their way to Portage County, where Richard Peterson, a brother of Adam, had settled in 1853. The brother was a lumberman but Adam Peterson desired to secure land and found a home. Shortly afterward he bought eighty acres of timber land situated in Amherst Township, and subsequently added eighty acres and on this place he spent the rest of his life engaged in agricultural pursuits with the exception of the period when he served as a soldier in the Civil war, a valiant member of Company B, Forty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He returned to Wisconsin practically unharmed after his military service, and resumed his peaceful life on his farm and here he died in 1913, a highly respected member of his community and a faithful member of the Lutheran Church. To this church his wife, who died in July, 1897, also belonged. Mr. Peterson assisted in the organization of the first Lutheran church in New Hope Township, and later contributed liberally to the church at Nelsonville.

To Adam and Anna Peterson eleven children were born, as follows: Anna, who is the wife of Carl Waller, a veteran of the Civil war; C. R., who is a farmer in Amherst Township; A. A.; Sophia, who is the wife of Edward Braskey, of Florence, Wisconsin; Emma, who died at the age of fourteen years; Hans, who lives in Portage County; Jennie, who is the wife of John Jacobs, lives in Oregon; Hannah, who never married and died when thirty years old; Clara, who is the wife of L. E. Gordon, Jr., of Amherst Township; Edwin, who lives in Amherst Township; and Ella, who died in infancy, the death of this babe being the first in the family.

A. A. Peterson attended school in Amherst Township and in the meanwhile helped his father like a dutiful son. In 1879 he started out for himself, going to Winnebago County, Iowa, where he engaged in farming for eighteen months and then returned home, where he spent the winter. In the spring of 1887 he returned to Iowa and bought the Rock Grove grist mill in Floyd County, and operated it very successfully for a year, when unusual weather conditions brought about a flood that carried away the dam. Mr. Peterson subsequently sold his mill interest and for a few months worked in Minnesota, and then

came back home and passed the following winter engaged in lumbering in the north woods.

Mr. Peterson worked hard, as do the majority of the sturdy lumbermen, but when spring came once more he resumed farming and this has been his occupation ever since. For the following four years he rented the L. L. Loberg farm in this township, where he has always been best satisfied to live, and then bought 120 acres of his father's farm, and later bought from a brother forty more acres of the old farm, and has resided on the old homestead continuously since 1894. The comfortable farmhouse was erected by his father, but the other substantial buildings on the place he has put up as he needed them, and altogether comfort and convenience prevail. Until 1906 he was quite interested in the raising of thoroughbred stock, but this feature he has discontinued in favor of his sons, who are doing well in breeding Guernsey cattle. Mr. Peterson still manages his farm without any assistance, making use of modern machinery and operating according to improved methods. His dairy interests have long been important and in 1908 he built his fine dairy barn, a substantial structure 38 by 70 feet in dimensions.

Mr. Peterson was married in 1887 to Miss Hannah Waller, who was born in New Hope Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, and is a daughter of Abraham Waller, a well known early settler. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have five children, namely: Alice Hazel, who is the wife of Olaf Loberg, of New Hope Township; Ella Inez, who is the wife of Harry Rowe, of Scandinavia Township, Waupaca County; Arthur Henry, Elmer LeRoy and Adeline Amelia, all living at home, the last named being a student in the Amherst High School, of which her brothers are graduates. Arthur Henry is a graduate also of the Wisconsin State University, where he completed the short agricultural course, and Elmer LeRoy is a student there at present, taking the same course. They are both energetic, enterprising young men with progressive ideas. Arthur Henry is secretary of the Portage & Waupaca County Guernsey Breeders' Association, and is also secretary of the Cow Testing Association of Amherst and New Hope. Such scientific interest in one of the country's greatest industries is commendable and encouraging.

As a good citizen Mr. Peterson has always kept himself informed concerning public matters but has never been much of a politician and has never accepted any office except membership on the school board. The entire family belong to the Lutheran Church at Nelsonville.

**GEORGE TARDIFF.** A record of thirty years of clean service in the employ of the Wisconsin Central Railroad entitles George Tardiff to mention among the men who have won honorable place for themselves in the various vocations. The life of the railroad man is one which demands the most careful attention to details, absolute integrity, strict sobriety and unquestioning loyalty, and when an individual has proved himself worthy of his superiors' esteem and confidence in these directions he has established a no mean record. Mr. Tardiff started "braking" for the line with which he is now connected in 1888; today he is one of the most popular passenger conductors on the road, with a long list of friendships acquired through daily contact with the traveling public.

George Tardiff is a native son of Portage County, born December 16, 1865, on a farm in Hull Township, his parents being Nicholas and Louise (LaJoy) Tardiff. His father was born in Canada, in which country he was married, and his wife was born in Three Rivers, Lower Canada, June 20, 1835. Not long after their union they came to Portage County, where Nicholas Tardiff followed a variety of occupations, being in turn riverman, sawmill man and worker in the lumber woods, while the family was living at Jordan, and later following the same vocations at McDill, where his death occurred October 4, 1882. Mrs. Tardiff died April 11, 1892, at Stevens Point, at the age of fifty-six years, and in the faith of the Catholic Church. Mr. Tardiff was a life-long republican. There were the following children in the family: Margaret; two daughters who died in infancy; John; Clemencie; Emma; George, of this notice; Lawrence, who met his death in a sawmill accident; and Elmer, who was killed while working as a railroad brakeman.

George Tardiff was reared in Portage County and was given the educational advantages afforded by the public schools of Stevens Point and the parochial schools of the Catholic Church. When he reached young manhood he began his career as a worker in the lumber woods, but railroading held out greater attractions to him, just as it does to many youths, and in 1888 he sought and found employment as a brakeman on the Wisconsin Central Railroad. Possessed of the attributes of steadiness, reliability, courage and a quick mind, he discharged his duties faithfully and well, and as his fidelity and ability came to the notice of his superiors he was given deserved promotion. After about three years of service on the road he was promoted, September 1, 1891, to the post of freight conductor, and not long thereafter was advanced to passenger conductor. During his long years of service he has gained and held the friendship of the traveling public of this section. His courtesy is unflinching and his manner always obliging, and his tact and diplomacy, so necessary in one in his position, have on a number of occasions smoothed out a troublesome situation. Mr. Tardiff is a republican. He belongs to the Order of Railway Conductors, and is likewise popular with his fellow members in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of the Maccabees. With his family he belongs to the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Tardiff was married April 2, 1891, to Miss Mary Sheerin, who was born at Neenah, Wisconsin, November 9, 1869, a daughter of James and Almira Sheerin. Mrs. Tardiff's parents came to Stevens Point in 1873, and here Mr. Sheerin followed the trade of machinist until his death January 26, 1902, when he was sixty-three years of age. Mrs. Sheerin passed away July 26, 1891, dying in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she had been a lifelong member. Mr. Sheerin was a democrat. Shortly after the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in Company G, Third Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of that struggle, establishing a splendid record for gallantry and fidelity and being honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Tardiff: A son who died in infancy; and Rose Louise, born November 17, 1893, educated in the public schools, a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and of the Normal School, and now the wife of James Van Rooy, proprietor of a men's furnish-

ing goods store at Stevens Point. Mr. and Mrs. Van Rooy have one child, George Tardiff Van Rooy, born April 16, 1917.

**RALPH R. MEEK.** Among the railway men who have their homes at Stevens Point one of the best known is Ralph R. Meek, who a number of years ago began as a brakeman with the Wisconsin Central and then attained to the responsibilities of a conductor. He has his home in Stevens Point and is highly esteemed in the citizenship of that community.

Mr. Meek was born at Alma Center in Jackson County, Wisconsin, April 24, 1884. He represents some very early pioneer families of this state. His parents were George and Sarah (Harmer) Meek. His father was born in Wisconsin in 1831, when this was a territory and practically a vast wilderness from one end to the other. Sarah Harmer was born at Rosendale, Wisconsin, in 1849, only a year after Wisconsin was admitted to the Union. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harmer, were natives of England, were married there, and were also pioneers in this state. Mrs. Charles Harmer died in 1857. The Meek family is of old American stock and some of them fought as soldiers in the Revolutionary war. George Meek was an old time Wisconsin lumberman and died in 1896. In 1861 he enlisted in Company I of the Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry, and was all through the war, doing active duty for three years and eight months. He was at the battle of Shiloh and in many of the important battles and campaigns of that important theatre of the rebellion. He was always a republican.

Ralph R. Meek was reared and educated at Greenwood, Wisconsin, graduating from the high school there in 1904. The very next year, in 1905, he began railroading as brakeman on the Wisconsin Central, and by his ready, prompt and efficient performance of duty was promoted to the rank of conductor in March, 1909. He is a member of the Order of Railway Conductors, and in politics is a republican.

Mr. Meek and family reside at 328 Pine Street in Stevens Point. November 29, 1906, he married Miss Bertha Masters, of Greenwood, Wisconsin, daughter of R. A. and Lizzie Masters. Her father was a business man at Greenwood and also owned a farm in Clark County, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Meek have one son, Ralph Gordon, born February 5, 1908.

**E. M. COPPS.** Among the prosperous and able men that have been influential in promoting the industrial and mercantile interests of Portage County especial mention should be made of E. M. Copps, of Stevens Point, head of a company that is carrying on an extensive and remunerative business, being actively engaged in the wholesale grocery trade. A son of Darius and Pamela (Hollister) Copps, he was born in 1840 in Chautauqua County, New York, and was there bred and educated, his early life having been spent on the home farm.

On April 10, 1861, responding to Lincoln's first call for troops, E. M. Copps enlisted in Company K, First New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, for a period of three months. At the expiration of his term he again entered the service as a member of the First New Hampshire Battery of Light Artillery, with which he was connected until May, 1862, when he was honorably discharged on account of illness. Having recovered his health, Mr. Copps enlisted, September

19, 1862, in the Ninety-eighth New York Volunteer Infantry, and served with his company until after the close of the war, being discharged from the service September 15, 1865. Although he enlisted as a private he was promoted, and at the time of his discharge was captain of his company.

Remaining at home but a short time after his return from the field of battle, Mr. Copps started westward, and for a year lived and labored in Indiana. Coming from there to Wisconsin, he located in Marinette, where he found employment in a saw mill. Subsequently working as a millwright, he helped build saw mills in different places. In November, 1874, Mr. Copps settled at Stevens Point, Portage County, and for a score of years thereafter was associated with the saw and planing mill industry. He built the plant now known as the Week Mill, and the one now owned by E. J. Piffner, at the latter place erecting its present smoke stack, which was the first brick chimney in the county.

In 1894 Mr. Copps began his mercantile career as a dealer in potatoes, establishing a trade that increased with rapidity, finally developing into the wholesale grocery business which he and his sons are now so successfully managing. In 1911 the business was incorporated, with E. M. Copps as president; Alfred M. Copps, his son, as secretary, treasurer, and manager; and Clinton W. Copps, another son, as a member of the firm.

Mr. Copps married, in 1870, Florence A. Chandler, a native of Escanaba, Michigan, and into the household thus established seven children have been born, namely: E. E., of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Eunice F., wife of H. E. Clatin; Alfred M.; Clinton W.; Dr. Lyman A., a first lieutenant in a medical corps of the United States Expeditionary Forces now somewhere in France; and Mabel and Ruth, both deceased. Although not an aspirant for political favors, Mr. Copps has served a few times in local offices. Religiously he and his family are Presbyterians. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He is also a valued member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Loyal Legion.

**ROBERT SAMUEL SPARKS.** Three generations of the Sparks family have lived in Portage County, and all of them have been honored citizens, useful workers, and have responded to the opportunities and obligations of life in a most creditable manner. Robert Samuel Sparks represents the third generation and has given his active years to rail-roading, and is now chief clerk of the mechanical department of the Soo Lines at Stevens Point.

Mr. Sparks was born on a farm in Pine Grove Township of this county December 2, 1877, son of Charles F. and Mary A. (Stevright) Sparks. The family was established in Wisconsin by his grandparents, Robert D. and Armina (Pickering) Sparks, who were natives of Pennsylvania and about 1850 settled in Washara County, Wisconsin. From there in the early '60s they moved to Pine Grove Township of Portage County, and lived in that community until they died. Robert D. Sparks was both a farmer and a Baptist minister. He served more than three years in the Civil war and was severely wounded in the battle of Shiloh. He died in 1914, at the advanced age of eighty-seven, having survived his wife many years. They had three children: Eugene, Scott and Charles F. Robert D. Sparks married for his

second wife Nancy Sparks, and there were two sons by that union, Sumner and Freeman.

Charles F. Sparks, father of Robert S., was born in Washara County, Wisconsin, in 1858, and his wife was born in the same year in Upper Canada. He was reared on a farm and followed agricultural pursuits until about 1888, when he removed to Stevens Point and for several years was with the Wisconsin Central as a coach carpenter. For the past fifteen years he has been janitor of the Stevens Point High School. He is a republican and he and his wife are active in the Baptist Church. They had five children, all living, named Robert S., Nida, Loron, Lulu and Jessie.

Robert S. Sparks was brought to Stevens Point when about ten years old and finished his education here in the high school and in the State Normal. He began regular employment as a clerk with the Wisconsin Central Railway and for a time had charge of one of its plants at McDill. In 1910 he took his present work as chief clerk of the mechanical department of what is now the Soo Lines.

Mr. Sparks has resided at 1134 Church Street since 1906. He is a republican and has been prominent in city affairs for many years. At the age of twenty-one he was made a member of the school board and held that office until he was elected alderman from the Sixth ward, and has sat in the city council and given diligent attention to all his responsibilities for four terms. Mr. Sparks is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Beavers and his father is also a Beaver. Mr. Sparks is a member of the State Guards and is treasurer of that organization.

February 22, 1906, he married Miss Lulie Todd. Mrs. Sparks was born at Brant in Calumet County, Wisconsin, November 19, 1882, daughter of Simpson and Lulie (Jenkins) Todd, who moved to Stevens Point in 1901 and are still living in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Sparks have three children, Adelaide, Agnes and Roberta.

ANDREW S. ANDERSON. It is coming to be quite generally understood that the important fact in estimating agricultural operations is not the extent of land covered, but the efficient and intensive manner in which the farm work is done. Thus Mr. Andrew S. Anderson on a place of eighty acres in New Hope Township has for many years made a good living, provided for his family, and is in a fair way to accumulate an ample competence against all future needs. He has farmed with an active directing intelligence as well as with his hands and manual labor. That is the type of farmer who usually succeeds in whatever state he may be found.

Mr. Anderson was born in New Hope Township September 17, 1868, a son of Sam and Anna (Peterson) Anderson. The mother is still living, making her home with Mr. and Mrs. Anderson. The parents came to Portage County about sixty years ago, were pioneers and made their first home in the midst of the heavy woods. The father first acquired eighty acres and later another tract of eighty acres, and in the early days he did most of his farming with oxen. The nearest point at which his produce could be transported to outside markets was a river landing about thirty-five miles away, and it meant a long and tedious journey to take a wagon drawn by oxen to and from that point. Andrew S. Anderson was second in a family of three children. His sister Emma is the wife of Captain Goodlet, a Great Lakes boat

captain. The youngest child, Peter, is a merchant and postmaster at Kempster.

Andrew S. Anderson grew up on the home farm and for the past thirty years has given his chief energies to his chosen vocation. He owns eighty acres, and has fifty acres of it in cultivation, the rest being in timber. All the buildings were placed here by him and he owns a fine and commodious house and a good group of barns and other improvements. He has a dairy herd of full blooded Guernsey cattle, and for a number of years has used part of his farm to grow potatoes. He is interested in the Nelsonville Creamery and the Farmers Potato Company. He has also begun the development of an apple orchard on his farm. Mr. Anderson recently resigned his positions on the town board and school board, and is a member of the Lutheran Church at Nelsonville.

He married Miss Carrie Nelson, a native of Dorr County, Wisconsin. Her father was a soldier in the Civil war. For many years he has drawn a pension, and is now eighty-eight years of age, and has earned the honorable retirement which he enjoys in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson. Three children have been born to their marriage: Maurice S., Clarence and Luella, the two younger being still at home. Maurice, who was freight agent at Iola, is now in the United States service and is a sergeant at Camp McClellan, Alabama, in the baker's and cook's school.

**CHARLES RATH.** When Charles Rath first came to Portage County in 1882 he was a young man of twenty-two years with little to assist him in the way of gaining a foothold save a small amount of capital and a large stock of self-confidence, determination and ability of an untrained order. To many this might not seem much upon which to build, but Mr. Rath went to work cheerfully and with supreme faith, and within the period of a few years he had himself substantially settled as an agriculturist who was making a success of his operations. Today he is accounted a well-to-do and capable farmer, and his position is one that gives him the respect and esteem of all who admire the accomplishments of self-made manhood.

Charles Rath was born in Germany, September 15, 1859, a son of George and Katrina Rath. His parents were honest and reliable people of their community, where the father was a tailor, but were in modest circumstances, and never left their home community, passing away in their native land. They were the parents of seven children: George, Jake, John and Mike, all deceased, the last of whom fought as a soldier during the Franco-Prussian war; David, who is now retired after a long period spent in farming in Portage County; Andrew, who is also a resident of the Village of Almond; and Charles, of this notice.

Charles Rath received only an ordinary education in the schools of his native land and much of his youth and young manhood were spent in various occupations which did not advance him materially, either in the way of position or financially. However, he managed to save enough from his earnings to equip himself sufficiently for a trip to the United States, the opportunities of which country he had heard spoken of so highly, and when but little past his majority he arrived at his destination, the agricultural community of Portage County, Wisconsin. Here he purchased land on June 15, 1882, in section 21,



Almond Township. This farm had been improved in a small way, and an old barn still stood as evidence of its former occupancy, but it was practically a new contract to make it a paying property. Mr. Rath had had very little experience as a farmer, practically none according to American methods, and during his early years there were times when it seemed as though his many discouragements would dishearten him completely. Perseverance and continuous labor, however, finally won out in the end, and today he is the owner of a splendid eighty-acre farm, upon which stand substantial buildings of his erection, with up-to-date improvements to be found on every side. Mr. Rath is practical in his views, although progressive in his ideas. He has engaged for the most part in raising potatoes and grain, but has also followed general farming, and has had some success as a stock breeder. As a citizen he assists all good movements in his community, and among his neighbors he is known as a man of marked integrity whose standing in commercial circles is of the best.

In 1888 Mr. Rath was united in marriage with Miss Amelia Young, who was born in Almond Township and was reared on a farm, and to this union there have been born four children: William, who is married and engaged in teaching school; and Ella, Ezra D. and Mena, who reside with their parents. The members of this family belong to the German Church at Almond.

**NORMAN C. PARSONS.** The Parsons family has been a factor in the prosperity and development of certain favored sections of Portage County for a long period of years. The founder of the family here was the late Oscar N. Parsons, and his old homestead in Plover Township is now occupied by his son Norman C. Parsons.

Oscar N. Parsons was born in Ohio June 28, 1837. He married in that state in 1863 Miss Jerantha Jordan, who was born in Hamilton County, New York, September 10, 1842. Oscar N. Parsons during the war had a service for three months with a national guard regiment and was stationed at Washington helping guard the capital.

On December 17, 1882, Oscar N. Parsons and family arrived in Portage County, and in February of the following year moved to the farm in Plover Township now occupied by Norman C. Parsons and his mother. Oscar N. Parsons died here June 29, 1900. He first bought sixty acres and later had 120 acres and gradually added to his accumulations until he had 200 acres under his ownership. He began farming with only twelve cleared acres and gradually expanded the area of his fields. Norman C. and Ralph W. Parsons since their father's death have added to the farm until it comprised 300 acres, but has since cut it down to 200 acres. It is one of the good farms of the county and is improved with excellent buildings.

Oscar N. Parsons was a democrat in politics. While living in Ohio his home was about ten miles from the City of Cleveland. While there he held school offices and the office of constable. He was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Six children were born to Oscar N. Parsons and wife. Dora, born November 14, 1864, is the wife of W. Gillman, and to their marriage have been born Chester W., Harry, Carl and two that are now deceased. Floyd and an infant. Three of the Gillman children are married. Chester Gillman married Merle Harroun. William married Edna Lawton, daughter of Charles Lawton, of Amherst.



*O. N. Parsons*

Wisconsin. Harry Gillman married Anna Walters, and they have one child, Donald Harry, who is therefore a great-grandchild of the late Oscar N. Parsons.

Walter Parsons, the second child, was born October 28, 1866. He married Mabel Alair, and their two children are Harold and Mildred. Mabel L., the third of the family, is the wife of Max Erler, and has two children, Lois and Norman. The fourth of the family is Norman C. Parsons. Grace D., born July 12, 1874, died in 1899, wife of Rev. Newell Chapman, by whom she was the mother of one child, Donald Paul. Ralph W., the sixth and youngest of the family, was born May 7, 1879, and died May 7, 1913, at the age of thirty-four. He married Mabel Voigt and had two children, Oliver Nathan and Wade Ralph.

Norman C. Parsons was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, not far from the City of Cleveland, August 3, 1871, and has lived in Portage County since he was eleven years of age. He was educated in the public schools, and grew up to the life of a farmer and since attaining manhood has done a great deal to clear up and develop and extend the farm property which now constitutes the home of himself and mother. He is now a general farmer and some years ago made a specialty of pure bred Poland China hogs. In politics he is a democrat.

EDWIN RANSLEAR PARKS is a native son of Portage County and is manifesting the commendable virtues of his ancestry as a farmer and sturdy and thrifty citizen and is rapidly getting ahead in the world as an agriculturist in Plover Township.

He was born in that township February 19, 1882. His father is Ranslear W. Parks, an old and prominent citizen so well known as to require hardly any introduction and concerning whose career a number of paragraphs are dedicated in other portions of this work.

Edwin R. Parks grew up on the old homestead farm and after his public school education took up agriculture as his permanent vocation. He began farming as proprietor of a hundred acres which his grandfather, Silas Parks, had acquired in the early days of Portage County. To that he added seventy-seven and a half acres and now has one of the larger farms of Plover Township and is showing his capabilities in handling his crops and good grades of livestock.

Mr. Parks has taken an active part in local affairs, especially in behalf of good roads. He has served as road commissioner three years and is now one of the five road patrolmen in Portage County. In politics he is a republican and is a member of the United Brethren Church.

Mr. Parks married in March, 1902, Miss Rose Mathewson, of Linwood Township, daughter of Henry and Letta Mathewson. Her parents were early settlers in this county and from Plover Township moved to Linwood Township. Her father died at Stevens Point in 1910, and her mother is now the wife of Rev. Mr. Bryan of Stevens Point. Mr. and Mrs. Parks have six children, all living, named Edith, Cecil, Darrell, Orville, Etta and Rubie.

JAMES WILLIAM MOXON has been identified with Stevens Point's industrial affairs for many years, is an old time veteran foundryman, and is now engaged in a general contracting business.

A native of England, he was born in Yorkshire September 3, 1867,

son of William and Sarah Ann (Womble) Moxon. Both parents were natives of England and there spent all their days. The father died in 1916, at seventy-eight, and the widow is still living at seventy-three. Their children were named George, James W., Alice, Walter, Luke, Martha and Edith, all living, showing the vitality and vigor of the stock and race. James W. Moxon was reared and educated in his native country and in 1888, at the age of twenty-one, came to America. He had learned the trade of iron molder in England and found employment in that line in New York for a short time, afterwards spent a few weeks at Niagara Falls, went on to St. Thomas, Canada, where he worked a year and a half, and going still farther west to Chicago took service with the Postal Telegraph Company in their construction department. Beginning work at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, he helped build a line clear through to Espeming, Michigan, working both winter and summer and part of the following winter. Returning to Oshkosh, he took charge of the Star Foundry Machine Works for J. A. Barns. Later he was with the D. J. Murray Manufacturing Company at Wausau.

On August 24, 1893, Mr. Moxon married Mrs. Louis Butter, whose maiden name was Barbara Steller. Mrs. Moxon was born in Weston Township of Marathon County, Wisconsin, April 9, 1864, daughter of Nicholas and Magdalene (Kolter) Steller. Her parents were both natives of Germany, her father born in 1830 and her mother in 1834. Her mother came to this country when eighteen years of age in 1852. Her father reached New York in 1850, and they were married in Brooklyn and after about two years came west and settled in the wilds of Wisconsin. Nicholas Steller worked in a mill at Scofield and accepted land in payment for his services. He improved this land and began farming, and his old farm is now part of the city of Wausau. He died in 1894 and his widow in 1906. Their children were: Elizabeth, Catherine, now deceased, Charles, Barbara, Caroline, Bertha, Magdalene, Marie and Ida. Mrs. Moxon by her first husband had two children, Adolph and Arnold. Adolph married Florence McClarey, is now living in Chicago and has four children, Margaret, Catherine, Carl and Fred. The other son of Mrs. Moxon, Arnold, is living at home in Stevens Point and is a brakeman on the Soo Railroad.

In 1894 Mr. and Mrs. Moxon located at Stevens Point, but after a year he returned to Oshkosh and took charge of the Star Foundry Machine Works. In April, 1898, he returned to Stevens Point and this has since been his permanent home. For a time he was with the Rice Brothers Foundry on Clark Street, but after about two years went with the Central City Iron Works. He finally took charge of this plant, and kept it in active operation until 1904. Since then he has been a general contractor, making a specialty of cement work of all kinds. In 1914 Mr. Moxon erected a substantial two-story cement home for himself at 902 Normal Avenue.

Mr. Moxon after getting citizenship as an American voted the republican ticket steadily for a number of years, but latterly has inclined to independence in the choice of his candidates. He is affiliated with Lodge No. 225, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Stevens Point and is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Moxon have six children. Earl, who graduated from high school and normal at Stevens Point, and afterwards taught one year at Manawa and in the high school at Elroy, is now doing his

bit for the Government as a member of the Ordnance Corps, sergeant and inspector of construction, stationed at Sheffield, Alabama. The second son, George, a graduate of the high school and State Normal at Stevens Point, is in the Hospital Corps and stationed on the battleship Arkansas. Magdalene is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and is now taking a training course in the State Normal. James and Esther, twins, and the youngest daughter, Ruth, are all high school students.

CHARLES A. ENGSTROM was a railway conductor with the Wisconsin Central until an injury forced him out of that business, and with the best years of his life still ahead of him took a business career at Stevens Point, and has gained a high degree of success. He owns his place of business and is a man whose industry and ambition give every assurance of the future, as they have provided so liberally for him in the past.

Mr. Engstrom was born at Iron Mountain, Michigan, October 29, 1882, son of Andrew and Mary Engstrom. His parents were both natives of Sweden, where they married, and on coming to America located at Iron Mountain, Michigan, where they still live. His father for a number of years was identified with the mining industries of Iron Mountain, but is now a farmer. They had eight children: John, Carrie, Louis, Charles A., Oscar, Edith, Violet and Herbert. Herbert, the youngest son, is now with the Engineering Corps of the United States Army, located at Corpus Christi, Texas.

Charles A. Engstrom grew up at Iron Mountain, attended the grammar and high schools there, and in 1903, at the age of twenty-one, went to Chicago. There he began railroading as a switchman with the Pennsylvania Railway Company. In 1904 he transferred his services to the Wisconsin Central at Abbotsford, Wisconsin, and in 1908 was promoted to conductor. As conductor his headquarters and home were at Ashland. He was one of the good and reliable men of the service until injured in an accident in 1914 and obliged to give up the work. He was secretary of the Order of Railway Conductors for some time after leaving his regular position.

In 1911 Mr. Engstrom came to Stevens Point and opened a bowling and billiard hall located at 1114 Division Street. For the past three years he has also engaged in the manufacture of extracts, and is rapidly building this up as an important local industry.

Mr. Engstrom and family live in one of the comfortable homes of the city at 315 Center Avenue. In politics he is a democrat and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Mystic Workers. His church home is the Presbyterian. In 1910 he married Miss Elsie English, of Ashland, Wisconsin. They have four children, Charles Herbert, Marvin, Howard and Elsie.

EMIL W. NEUMANN has lived a career that entitles him to a place of honor and respect among the citizens of Portage County. He was born here, grew to manhood here, and his active life has been one of capable industry and business activity at Stevens Point.

Mr. Neumann was born in Stevens Point October 16, 1867. At the time of his birth his parents, Philip and Amanda (Timm) Neumann, lived on North Third Street. Both parents were natives of

Germany. His father was born November 20, 1840, and his mother May 23, 1844. Philip Neumann was about fourteen years old and had just completed his education in the German common schools when he set out for America in company with an uncle, Adam Kuhl. A few years later, in the '50s, he came to Stevens Point, and on October 25, 1861, went forth from this locality as one of the new recruits to fight the battles of the Union. He was enrolled in Company H of the Ninth Wisconsin Infantry, and was in active service from the fall of 1861 until December 3, 1864. In 1863 he was promoted to sergeant, and in one battle he was wounded and was in a hospital. From the war Mr. Neumann came back to Stevens Point, and resumed work at his trade as a cabinetmaker. From that he soon went into the meat business. After about six years he removed to Oshkosh and with his brother-in-law, Gottlieb Ecke, engaged in the brewing business. That was only a temporary occupation, however, and in a few years he returned to Stevens Point and resumed the meat business, having charge of the Benjamin Burr meat market on the south side. He kept up his work there steadily until his death on April 8, 1891. He was one of the highly honored and respected citizens of Stevens Point both for his army record and his record as a private citizen. On February 7, 1865, Philip Neumann and Amanda Timm were united in marriage. She had come from Germany to the United States when about ten years old in 1854, her parents, Paul and Marie (Krysin) Timm, first locating at Oshkosh, and then on a farm near Weyauwega, where they spent the rest of their days. Her father died May 13, 1873, when seventy-one years old, and her mother, on November 10, 1866, when sixty-one years old.

Philip and Amanda Neumann had a large family of children. The oldest, Otto Neumann, was born December 22, 1866, at Stevens Point, Wisconsin. He married Flora Opperman, and their children are Raymond, Myron A., Beulah, Thelma and Lucille. Emil W. had a twin brother, Oscar, who died November 5, 1889, at the age of twenty-one. The next children, Paul and Olga, were also twins. They were born August 14, 1871, at Oshkosh. Paul, who was with the United States Army in the Spanish-American war, is now a resident of Eldorado, Kansas, and by his marriage to Theresa Podach he has two children, Janet and Franz. Olga, twin sister of Paul, was educated in the Stevens Point High School and is now living with her mother at 210 North Third Street in Stevens Point, the home in which the family have resided for over thirty-five years. Edwin, the next in order of birth, was born April 14, 1874, at Oshkosh and is now connected with the Wisconsin Bridge and Iron Works at North Milwaukee. He married Angeline Cronkhite and has two children, Ruth and Philip. Alma, the youngest of the family, born March 28, 1879, at Stevens Point, is the wife of W. E. Gilkey, an oil man at Pawhuska, Oklahoma. Mrs. Gilkey is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School, 1895, and also a graduate of the Stevens Point Business College.

Emil W. Neumann was reared and educated in Stevens Point, attended public school here, and as a youth did his first regular work as a teamster and employe of the livery firm of Ball & Finch. For the past twenty years he has been in the transfer and livery business for himself, and for eleven years of that time has also conducted an ice storage and distribution business. About 1908 the firm became Read-

ing & Neumann, and they have a large amount of capital and facilities invested in general storage, transfer, moving and in handling and storage of ice. Their headquarters are at 210 North Third Street. Mr. Neumann resides at 410 Normal Avenue and has one of the modern homes of the city there.

He is independent in politics. He has served as undersheriff of the county and at one time was chief of the fire department of Stevens Point.

November 12, 1910, Mr. Neumann married Miss Bertha Lee, who was born in Norway June 11, 1872. Her parents died in the old country and she was brought to Portage County, Wisconsin, when only eight years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Neumann have no children.

**GEORGE B. NELSON.** During his membership in the bar of Portage County George B. Nelson has won an enviable reputation not only for his careful and able handling of the various interests entrusted to him in general practice, but also through his vigorous official record while district attorney and in various other positions of trust and responsibility.

He was born at Amherst in Portage County May 21, 1876, a son of James J. and Juniata P. (Andrews) Nelson. His father was born in Norway and his mother in Janesville, Wisconsin. James J. Nelson, who came to the United States in 1857, served in the Civil war, and afterward, in 1866, located at Amherst and for thirty years was a prosperous general merchant of that town. He retired from business in 1899, but he and his wife are still living there, enjoying good health and are most estimable members of the community. They have three children: Herbert S., George B. and Laura P. Kellogg.

George B. Nelson had his early education in the public schools of Amherst. He is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School, completed his literary course in the University of Wisconsin with the class of 1898, and from there went east and combined the advantages of life in the national capital with those of the splendid law school of George Washington University at Washington, from which he graduated in 1902 with the degree LL. B.

Mr. Nelson began practice at Stevens Point in 1904. Early in his career as a lawyer he was elected district attorney and filled that office six years. It was a valuable experience to him, but an even greater source of value and benefit to the entire county since the office in his hands became an effective instrument for the meting out of impartial and vigorous justice. Mr. Nelson is now senior member of the firm Nelson & Hanna, and besides general practice they represent some of the leading corporations and business houses of Portage County. Mr. Nelson is a director of the Citizens National Bank of Stevens Point.

On April 16, 1912, he married Miss Ruth Weller, daughter of Bishop R. H. Weller, of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. They have one child, James J. Mrs. Nelson's father, Reginald H. Weller, was born in Missouri in 1857, received his literary education in various institutions of the South and in 1884 graduated from the Nashotah Theological Seminary in Wisconsin. He was ordained a deacon in the Protestant Episcopal Church in 1880 and a priest in 1884, and during his long service as a pastor he was in charge of the Stevens Point Episcopal Church from 1890 to 1900. In 1900 he was consecrated coad-

jutor bishop of Fond du Lac and in 1912 became bishop of Fond du Lac. Mrs. Nelson's mother bore the maiden name of Bessie Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are active members of the Episcopal Church, and he has served two terms as a regent of the Stevens Point Normal School and is now president of the Board of Regents. Mr. Nelson is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, member of the Elks and Modern Woodmen of America, belongs to the Rotary Club, and is affiliated with the Theta Delta Chi college fraternity and the Phi Delta Phi honorary law fraternity.

AUGUST A. KLUCK, JR. One of the good farms of Sharon Township has received the care, cultivation and diligent labor of the Kluck family for about half a century. This farm is owned by August A. Kluck, Jr., who grew up there, and has supplemented the diligence of his father in perfecting arrangements and equipment until he now has a place that affords the maximum of returns for the labor involved.

On this farm August A. Kluck, Jr., was born in December, 1875. He is a son of August and Mary (Esker) Kluck, both natives of Poland. His father was born February 27, 1840, and the mother in 1848. The paternal grandparents, Andrew and Annie Kluck, immigrated to America and arrived in Canada July 24, 1861. In November of the same year they removed to Milwaukee, the grandmother following her husband in 1862. She died in Milwaukee in 1862, when about sixty years of age. Andrew Kluck then came to Portage County and died here about 1880, at the age of eighty-four. Their children were John, Leonard, Vincent, Michael, August, Julia and Paulina. The only two now living are August and Paulina. The son Michael died in Poland.

August Kluck, Sr., accompanied the family to America and about three years after locating at Milwaukee he enlisted and fought for the Union cause. His enlistment was on October 28, 1864, and he served until the close of the war. In 1865 he returned to Milwaukee, married in the same year and took his bride to Portage County in the fall of 1865. His wife was a daughter of Peter and Agnes Esker, who located at Milwaukee in 1862 and in 1865 came to Portage County, buying a farm in Sharon Township. Both lived there until the end of their lives. The children in the Esker family were Nick, Mary, Annie and Paulina. Paulina is now deceased.

August Kluck, Sr., on coming to Portage County bought eighty acres as the nucleus of the farm which has been above described. Later he acquired 120 acres and ten acres of this have since been sold, leaving the present place of 190 acres. Only eleven acres of the ground had been cleared when the senior Kluck acquired it, and he brought his family to live in a log house. The land for cultivation has since been widened over most of the farm, and the buildings are all first class. Mr. Kluck, Sr., is a democrat and he and his family are members of the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia. Fourteen children were born to him and his wife named: John, Nick, Alexander, Frank, Anastasia, Helen, August, Mary, Annie, Joseph, Leo, Maggie, Martha and Veronia. All are still living except John, the first child. August Kluck, Sr., in the early days served as side supervisor of the township, and later for about thirteen years was chairman and director of the School Board.

August A. Kluck, Jr., grew up on the home farm and was educated



in parochial schools. In 1903 he bought the old homestead from his father and now has the responsibility of looking after 190 acres devoted to general farming and stock raising. He is a democrat in politics and a member of the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia. In 1903 Mr. Kluck married Miss Josie Wanta. She is a native of Sharon Township, born in 1880, daughter of Joseph and Kate Wanta, who are still living on their home farm in Sharon Township. Mr. and Mrs. Kluck have a bright and interesting family of eight children, named: Frances, Georgiana, Richard, Alphonse, John, Margaret, Stancey and Louise.

**CHRISTIAN HANSON.** There is hardly any name more closely associated with the larger interests of Portage County than that of Hanson. As a family the people of that name have lived here from the days of pioneer beginnings and have always borne a most sturdy and responsible share of duties, whether as developers of the soil, as lumbermen, as business men in general or as good and faithful citizens.

In the shadow of his eightieth year Christian Hanson, founder of the family, passed to his final reward, dying on the 18th of April, 1918. He lived in close touch with rural conditions and environment at Amherst Junction, and for upwards of half a century he carried on his activities as a farmer in New Hope Township.

Mr. Hanson was born at Hillested, Denmark, April 17, 1839, a son of Hans and Christian (Jorgenson) Jorgenson. His parents were both born in the same locality, his father in 1786 and his mother in 1803. His father spent most of his life as a farm hand in Denmark and died there in 1852. His wife died in 1843. In the family were five children: Jorgen, who died in Denmark at the age of fourteen; Anna and Else, both of whom died young; Christian; and Anna, second of the name, who became the wife of N. Rasmuson and came to America in 1868, settling at Farmington in Waupaca County, Wisconsin, where she died in 1869.

Christian Hanson had a good common school education according to the standards of the time in which he was reared. His school days were ended about the time he reached his fourteenth year. After that he became self supporting, hiring out to work as a farm hand and getting two dollars a month for all the varied duties he performed. The wages were never an important asset measured by modern wages, but the eight or nine years he worked on farms in Denmark constituted a splendid apprenticeship and gave him a thorough mastery of the fundamentals, though he had to apply them on a vastly different scale when he came to Wisconsin. At the age of twenty-three he was only getting five dollars a month for his services, and with no brighter prospects ahead he determined to seek the big opportunities concerning which he had received such glowing reports as found in America.

In 1863, inspired with the hope of better things and with the zest of the explorer who desires to know and conquer new fields, Mr. Hanson came to America, leaving Hamburg, Germany, on a merchant vessel bound for Hull, England, proceeding across England by railroad to Liverpool and there taking passage on the steamship Bohemia of the Montreal Steamship Company line. This landed him at Quebec and four weeks after leaving home he arrived in Waupaca County, Wisconsin. He reached here with twelve dollars in his pocket. The day of his arrival was the sixth of October, and almost immediately

he established a connection with the employing class and engaged to work as a farm hand at fifty cents a day. After two weeks he went to Lind Township of Waupaca County and put in a couple of weeks working for his board, cutting wood and doing other chores for the privilege of attending school. Later his wages were advanced to thirty-seven dollars a month and board at farm labor, and as a farm hand he worked in Waupaca and other localities until coming to Stevens Point.

Here Mr. Hanson was entrusted with the responsibility of taking a raft of lumber down the river from Wausau to St. Louis. On reaching Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, the timbers became wedged and he was compelled to abandon the raft and return home. Later he worked in a sawmill at Port Edwards, Wisconsin, for a couple of summers and spent the winters in the woods.

In the meantime he was picking up knowledge rapidly of American life and customs and was getting into a position where he could realize upon the varied experience he had been through. In the spring of 1867 Mr. Hanson moved into New Hope Township of Portage County, and bought the land which constituted his farm. Of the 120 acres only twenty-seven acres had been cleared and put into cultivation, and the work of further improving it received his attention and labors through all the half century that elapsed. All the present commodious buildings were erected during the ownership and under the direct supervision of Mr. Hanson. The farm is pleasantly situated on the border of a beautiful lake, and its attractiveness as well as its productivity and value can hardly be surpassed by any farm in the neighborhood or in the entire county.

On April 13, 1866, at Waupaca, Christian Hanson married Miss Frederica Behm. She is also a native of Hillested, Denmark, where she was born September 29, 1840, daughter of Ludwig and Margaret (Paulson) Behm. The Behm family immigrated to America and traveled on the same vessel across the ocean which brought Mr. Christian Hanson, and it was during that voyage that the two young people developed the romance which later united them as man and wife. The Behm family located in Lind Township of Waupaca County. The brothers and sisters of Mrs. Hanson are: Paul, Frederick, Christian, Marcus, Christina, Hannah and Maria.

Mr. and Mrs. Christian Hanson became the parents of six children: Hans Christian Ludwig, born February 25, 1868, who went to Alaska in the spring of 1895; Maria Sophia, born April 20, 1870, wife of John Hanson, a farmer near Waupaca; Marcus Knute, born December 6, 1872, mentioned elsewhere in this publication; Anna Margaret, born May 27, 1878; Olive Christine, born February 6, 1880; and Nels Peter, born August 11, 1883.

After acquiring American citizenship Mr. Christian Hanson was always a sound republican in political doctrine. He served six years as township treasurer, township clerk ten years, and as township chairman two years. He was assessor one year and for twenty-four years was justice of the peace. He was also one of the organizers of The New Hope Norwegian Mutual Fire Insurance Company in 1886 and was its secretary for twenty-three years. This is a splendid public career, none of the offices having given him state wide prominence, but all of them constituting real honor and indicating the esteem in which his worthy citizenship was held in his community. Mr. Hanson

was a member of the New Hope Norwegian Lutheran Church, as is also Mrs. Hanson.

MARCUS K. HANSON. Hardly any of the important activities and organizations of New Hope Township could be mentioned with which the name Marcus K. Hanson is not connected in some important way. Mr. Hanson is a successful and thrifty farmer, but has shown unusual business capacity and it is only necessary to mention his varied interests to indicate the substantial position of esteem he enjoys in this county.

Mr. Hanson was for two years township clerk, then for two years township chairman, and later was again elected township clerk and has held that office continuously for a number of years. For a time he was also a justice of the peace. He is now secretary of the Portage County Co-operative Society, an organization which has done much to promote the interests of the producing farmers of the county and has secured many satisfactory adjustments of market and buying conditions. Mr. Hanson has been secretary since the organization. For twelve years he was treasurer of the New Hope Norwegian Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and in 1917 was elected its secretary. He was also one of the first subscribers to the Amherst Telephone Company and has always been a director of the company and for two years was its president. For some time he was director of the Security Bank at Amherst Junction, and is now president of that substantial institution.

Mr. Hanson was born in New Hope Township December 6, 1872, a son of Christian and Fredericka (Behm) Hanson, both natives of Denmark. Mr. Hanson grew up in his native county, and besides the local public schools he attended Scandinavia Academy. Farming has been his regular vocation since early manhood, and in partnership with his father-in-law, Hans P. Johnson, he now has the active operation of 240 acres. He and his family are members of the old New Hope Lutheran Church.

December 22, 1895, Mr. Hanson married Miss Ivanna Johnson, who was born on the farm where she still lives October 24, 1868, the only daughter and child of Hans P. Johnson.

Hans P. Johnson has for upwards of half a century occupied a substantial position in the community. He was born in Norway June 18, 1845, a son of John and Mary (Anderson) Johnson. In 1854, when he was nine years of age, the family came to America and in August of the same year located on the farm now owned by Hans P. Johnson in New Hope Township. John Johnson at that time entered 160 acres from the Government. There were no improvements and no buildings, and in fact the Johnsons were members of practically the first colony to come into the township and establish permanent homes. Two other families had preceded them a short time, and the Johnsons with Thomas Onland made the third and fourth families in the township. John Johnson was a fine type of the sturdy pioneer, and his industry enabled him to clear away some of the land for cultivation and he erected the first buildings. However, most of the clearing was left to his son Hans, who also is responsible for the group of modern building improvements that now lend attractiveness and value to the farm. The year following the advent of the Johnson family to this locality Hans P. Johnson, then a boy of ten years, put his strength

to test in breaking up a considerable acreage, which he sowed to wheat, and later on in the same season harvested the grain with a cradle. John Johnson and wife remained on this farm the rest of their years. The mother died about thirty years ago and the father twenty years ago. His name is on the list of organizing or charter members of the old New Hope Lutheran Church. In the family were six children: John A. Walding, Caroline, Anna Maria, Voleta, Hans P. and Severina. They are all still living, and all reside within a few miles of each other.

Hans P. Johnson had a little schooling in his native land, and after coming to Portage County he attended a neighborhood school in which his father had a part in the organization. While his acquaintance with books was limited, Mr. Johnson has always been inured to the value and necessity of honest toil, and has used sound intelligence in all his work so that his enviable prosperity is not to be accounted for by chance or luck. He has always lived on the original farm and increased its size by the purchase of twenty acres, so that the place now has 180 acres.

December 22, 1867, Mr. Johnson married Miss Oline Berge. She was born in Norway, daughter of Peter and Ingeborg (Hanson) Olson Berge. Her family came to America in 1857, locating in New Hope Township after spending about two years in Scandinavia Township of Waupaca County. They located in Portage County about 1859 and her father bought eighty acres of Fox River land. The last thirty years of their lives, however, were spent on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, where a house was built especially for their convenience and comfort. Her father died there at the advanced age of ninety-four. After settling in the county her father cleared up about thirty-five acres of his eighty-acre farm, and erected the first building improvements on the wild land.

Mr. Johnson has taken an active part in local affairs, has served as township supervisor and for about thirty years was path master. He also assisted in organizing the local Co-operative Company.

**MARION A. FLEMING.** Farming and stock raising in Portage County have proved very profitable to men who have given intelligent attention to these kindred industries, and it is not unusual to find evidences of this in many sections. One of the enterprising agriculturists of Amherst Township, who owns a fine body of well cultivated land and a magnificent herd of sleek Jersey cattle, is Marion A. Fleming, who is a representative of one of the old pioneer families that came here in the early '50s.

Marion A. Fleming was born in Amherst Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, July 9, 1860. His parents were Benjamin and Anna (Loing) Fleming, who were born, reared and married in Pennsylvania. From that state they came to Portage County in 1855 and Benjamin Fleming took up Government land in Amherst Township, which he cleared and developed, and this remained the permanent family home. He was an industrious, self respecting man and proved his loyalty to his country by enlisting for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of Company B, Forty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He survived the war and carried on farming until his death. But one of his five children grew to maturity.

Marion A. Fleming has been a resident of Amherst Township all

his life. He received his educational training in the public schools and from youth has been interested in farm pursuits. He owns a valuable tract of eighty acres, which adjoins the village of Amherst on the south. Mr. Fleming carries on his farm operations according to modern methods, with the sensible idea of meeting modern demands, for at no time in the world's history have farm products been held so indispensable. It is his judgment that Jersey cattle are the most profitable in this section of the country, and his herds are in prime condition.

Mr. Fleming was married in 1899 to Miss Mary Smith, who was born in Amherst Township and is a daughter of Casper and Amelia (Vehmeir) Smith. The mother of Mrs. Fleming was born in Germany and came from that country to America in 1853 and to Portage County in 1865. The father of Mrs. Fleming is a substantial farmer in Portage County and is one of the honored veterans of the Civil war. In the early days of the rebellion he enlisted at Lake Mills, Wisconsin, in Company D, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in which he served with conspicuous bravery for three years. He escaped all serious injury and after the war returned to his home in Amherst.

Mr. and Mrs. Fleming have had children as follows: Florence Joy, Francis M., Benjamin C., Florence A. and Marjorie. Of this family the eldest and youngest are deceased. Fraternaly Mr. Fleming is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Equitable Fraternal Union. With his family he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

While farming has always been Mr. Fleming's main business, he has additional interests which claim a part of his time and attention. For the last fourteen years he has been engaged in selling life insurance as a representative of the New York Life Insurance Company of New York, an organization that offers, because of its high commercial standing and vast assets, very superior advantages to those it insures, and Mr. Fleming is highly regarded by the company for his success in this field. He has been active also in politics in the township and since 1912 has been township clerk. Few citizens of Amherst are better known over the county and none are held in higher esteem.

SYLVESTER W. ANDREWS, a retired resident of Stevens Point, has had a long and notable life, is a veteran of the Union Army, and has lived in Portage County since earliest pioneer times.

He was born in Schoharie County, New York, October 9, 1840, son of Paul and Elizabeth (Shumway) Andrew. Both parents were natives of New York State. It was in 1842, when Sylvester was two years old, that the Andrews family journeyed west through the avenues of the wilderness until they arrived in Wisconsin. Their first settlement was near Janesville, where they spent one winter, and in 1843 moved to Sauk Prairie in Sauk County. There the father rented a farm, but subsequently moved to Richland County, Wisconsin, and bought 120 acres of land. This he developed as a good farm and lived on it for nine years, when, selling out, he came to Stevens Point in 1854. From that time forward he spent most of his time on the river, and was well known among all the old lumbermen, river men and as well among other classes of citizens in Portage County. The death of this honored old timer occurred in April, 1903, when he was eighty-two years of age. His wife died in 1900, aged seventy-eight. Their children were Sylvester W., Jeremiah, James and Elizabeth, the

latter the wife of Daniel B. Wood. Paul Andrews was a staunch republican in politics.

In 1864 he enlisted in Company D of the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry, and was a fighting soldier of the Union until the close of hostilities. In early life he had been a Methodist, but later was a United Brethren in church faith.

Sylvester W. Andrews had his educational advantages in the primitive log schools of the '40s and '50s in Wisconsin. He grew up as a frontiersman and when only a boy developed a singular skill in piloting boats and lumber rafts down the rivers. On November 2, 1856, he came to Stevens Point, and for many years followed the river as his regular vocation. Mr. Andrews has had his home in one location at Stevens Point, 110 Algona Street, for the past thirty-two years and built the comfortable home there himself.

In the flush of young manhood he joined the same company and regiment for service in the Union Army as his father, and both of them went out together and came back together after having loyally served their time. A brother of Sylvester, Jeremiah, had enlisted in 1861 in Company E of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry, and was a soldier for more than three years, being at the great battle of Shiloh as well as many others. The Civil war record of the family would be incomplete without reference to the wife of Sylvester W. Andrews, whose brother, John Topping, was in the Civil war and was killed at the battle of Rappahannock, Virginia.

Besides his work on the farm Mr. Andrews has had numerous business interests to look after and claim a share of his attention. For several years he conducted a moving picture show at Superior, Wisconsin. He owns some valuable real estate, including two acres of land well within the city limits of Stevens Point and also three city lots where he lives. He is an active member of the prohibitionist party and is affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and the Knights of Malta. He and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church.

January 8, 1863, Mr. Andrews married Miss Lucy Topping. She was born in New York State July 15, 1840, daughter of Richard and Hannah (Shufelt) Topping. Her father was a native of Galloway, New York, and her mother of Schoharie County, New York. Her father died in New York State at the age of seventy and her mother passed away in Stockton Township of Portage County aged seventy-six. In the Topping family were ten children: Sanford, John, James, Fay, Catherine, twin sons that died in infancy, Lucy Ann, Tryphena and Volney.

It remains now to note briefly the six children who comprise the family of this honored old time resident of Stevens Point. Rita, the oldest, is the widow of Eugene A. Sherman, of Stevens Point. Ida married Bert Skalityky, and their family of seven children, all living, are named Lizzie, Arthur, Evan, Leonard, Robbie, Edna and Ethel, twins. The third child of Mr. and Mrs. Andrews is Minnie, wife of W. S. Lewis and her five children are Walter, Raymond, Catherine and Lucy, twins, and Willie. Annie, the fourth of the family, married Henry Macklin, and her children are Angie, Ruth, Harry, Lee and Marjorie. The fifth is Clarence, who married Beulah Hall, and had five children, Ivan, now deceased, Lawrence, Leora, Jean, and Ethline





*James Family St. Elbert*



*St. Peter's Church Rectory  
and Sisters Home.*



Roberta, also deceased. Frances Maud, the youngest, is the wife of D. M. Leadbetter, and they have no children.

REV. STANISLAUS A. ELBERT has been an effective worker among the Catholic churches of Central Wisconsin for twenty-two years, is the beloved pastor of St. Peter's Church, one of the largest congregations in Stevens Point, and has distinguished himself as a man of exceptional enterprise, business judgment, administrative power and one whose influence has been effective among all classes of people, not alone in his own church.

Father Elbert was born in Prussian Poland January 1, 1869. His parents died in their native land, and the boy was left practically resourceless as well as an orphan. In 1880, when eleven years old, he came to the United States with a friend. In this country he attended public school in Baltimore, Maryland, and was finally initiated in St. Charles College of Maryland, from which he graduated, and on December 19, 1896, finished his theological course in St. Mary's Seminary at Baltimore. For one year he was assistant pastor in Baltimore, and in 1898 came to Wisconsin, being assigned as pastor of St. Bronislaw Church at Plover in Portage County. He was there until 1902, when he became pastor of St. Michael's Church at Wausau for a year and a half, was pastor of the Sacred Heart Church at Marinette four and one-half years, in May, 1909, returned to Portage County, located at Faucher, and on December, 12th of the same year took up his present responsibilities as pastor of St. Peter's Church.

His administration here has been one notable in many ways. He has been especially efficient in handling the finances and making material improvements in the parish property. These improvements have aggregated a value of \$30,000. They include the pastoral residence, the painting and improving of the church, addition to church, establishment of heating facilities, and the purchase of twenty acres, platted and fenced, for a new Catholic cemetery. Father Elbert is one of the most enterprising men of Stevens Point, is very liberal in his work, and has made friends throughout the entire county.

HARRY L. SLACK. Around the Village of Plover may be found some of the most progressive and reliable farmer citizens of Portage County. One of these is Harry L. Slack, whose life has been almost entirely spent in this locality, and who as a hard working young man has been successful beyond his own expectations. He has relied chiefly upon himself, has made opportunities when none presented themselves, and is accorded a high standing in his neighborhood. Everything he does he does well.

Mr. Slack was born in Buena Vista Township of Portage County August 6, 1882, son of Perry and Jennie (Crary) Slack. His parents were both natives of Broome County, New York. His father was born there in January, 1843, and his mother in October, 1853. His mother is a daughter of Abe and Catherine Crary, who came from New York State to Portage County and settled on a farm in Buena Vista Township. Abe Crary died in the Village of Plover in 1891 and his wife is also deceased. Abe Crary saw four years of active service as a Union soldier in the Civil war.

Perry Slack, on coming to Portage County bought a farm in Buena Vista, and later acquired 140 acres in Plover Township. He sold that

place and bought eighty acres where his son Harry now lives, and somewhat later moved to McDill, where he owned a small farm of forty acres for several years, but is now living retired in that village. He is a republican and a member of the United Brethren Church. Perry Slack and wife had a large family of children named as follows: Sarah, Charles, Mary, Harry L., Lucy, Ralph, Wallace, Ida, Edward, Myrtle, Clayton and Earl. There were thirteen altogether and those now deceased are Mary, Ralph and Wallace. There were three children named Wallace, the first dying in infancy. The son Clayton is now in the National Army and at this writing is in training at Camp Grant, Illinois.

Harry L. Slack grew up on his father's farm and had a country school education. He has given the best of his energies to farming for the past fifteen years and in 1910 he bought the farm in Plover Township from his father and has done a great deal to improve the land and make it productive and valuable both as a farm and a home. He cleared up fifty acres from a wild condition and has erected a splendid group of farm buildings. His barn is 30 by 50 feet with 16-foot posts, and another notable feature indicating his progressiveness in agricultural matters is a large silo 10 by 30 feet, five feet being underground. Mr. Slack does general farming and stock raising. In politics he votes as a republican.

November 25, 1915, he married Miss Nettie Clussman, who was born in Plover Township June 22, 1896, daughter of William M. Clussman, of Plover Township. Mr. and Mrs. Slack have one daughter, Trelma, born August 28, 1917.

RETON BROTHERS is one of the oldest and best known mercantile houses of Stevens Point. It was established in 1886, and the business has been constantly growing and expanding. Both brothers, Niels and John, are practical jewelers and opticians and optometrists, and they began business here chiefly as jewelers. From time to time they have added other departments to their business until they now handle china ware and sporting goods, talking machines and records, and have all the facilities for thorough prompt service in these various lines.

The brothers are sons of Ole and Guniel (Eng) Reton, both natives of Norway. The father was born there in 1837 and the mother in 1852. They were married in Norway and in 1868 came to Portage County, Wisconsin, locating on a farm in New Hope Township, where they remained a short time and in 1870 moved to Stevens Point, which was their permanent home. The mother died there in 1896. From 1883 to 1885 Ole Reton spent in Bellingham, Washington, where he took up a homestead. He went to Norway in 1898, and again in 1902 went back to his native country and spent about two years. Later he removed to California, where he died May 21, 1907. He was a highly esteemed citizen of Portage County, and in the early days his home was headquarters for nearly all the newcomers from Norway and he cheerfully gave his experience, judgment and other forms of helpfulness to them in getting started and in accommodating themselves to American conditions. He was exceedingly kind and very liberal, and he put himself out for the benefit of many people at considerable sacrifice to himself. He and his wife were active members of the Lutheran church. Their children were: Niels;

John; and Regina Marie, wife of William J. Gavin, elsewhere mentioned in this publication.

Niels Reton was born in Norway October 15, 1865. He was only three years of age when his parents came to America, and at Stevens Point he received his early education in the grammar and high schools. When only fifteen he began learning the jewelry trade and at the end of four years bought a small stock and started in business for himself. Then, in 1886, his brother John joined him in the firm of Reton Brothers. In 1892 they built a brick building 100x28 feet at 439 Main Street, and on the lower floor they have the headquarters of their business, which has been carried on very successfully. On the second floor is what is known as Reton's Hall, a well known place of assemblage in Stevens Point. Niels Reton is a republican in politics and a member of the Lutheran Church. He is unmarried.

John Reton was born in Norway September 16, 1867, and was brought as a small infant to Portage County. He was educated in the public schools of Stevens Point and was also thirteen years old when he began learning the jeweler's trade. In 1895 he married Elizabeth Malone, of Wausau, Wisconsin. Their only child, Mabel, was born August 7, 1896, graduated from the Stevens Point High School and from the State Normal School in 1917, and is now doing special work in normal school. John Reton is a republican in politics.

MORITZ KREMBE, D. D. S. A member of one of the most prominent families of Stevens Point, Dr. Moritz Krembe has spent nearly all his life in that city and returned here ten years ago to take up the practice of dentistry, for which he was thoroughly trained and qualified, and has carried on his profession with a high degree of skill and success ever since.

Doctor Krembe was born at Stevens Point December 23, 1885, a son of Alexander Krembe, a citizen whose career is mentioned elsewhere. Doctor Krembe was educated in the grammar and high schools of Stevens Point and took his literary education in Notre Dame University at South Bend, Indiana, and in 1908 graduated from Northwestern University Dental School of Chicago. Since then he has been giving his services to an ever widening group of patrons at Stevens Point. He has a large circle of friends, and has taken a considerable interest in local politics as a democrat. At one time he represented the Fifth Ward in the City Council. He is a member of the Catholic church, the Knights of Columbus, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and the Loyal Order of Moose. In 1909 Doctor Krembe married Hazel Clark of Stevens Point.

LINUS MYRON SHERMAN. Some of the earliest settlements of Portage County were made in Buena Vista Township, and it is one of the oldest families there that is represented by Linus Myron Sherman. Mr. Sherman is himself a native of Portage County and is now living on part of the old homestead where he was born.

He was born January 13, 1862, son of Augustus and Almira (Webster) Sherman. Wisconsin had been a state only a few years when the Sherman family came here. His paternal grandfather, Harvey Hatch Sherman, was born at Knox in the State of Maine December 27, 1809. He married Eliza Didley Dola, who was born November 11, 1814, and died April 20, 1865. Harvey H. Sherman first came to

Madison, Wisconsin, in 1855 and established a store there. Later he went back to Maine, and then returned to Dane County, Wisconsin, where he lived until his death at Windsor on April 19, 1888. Augustus Sherman was born at Knox, Maine, February 2, 1836, and had not yet attained his majority when he came with his parents to Wisconsin. He spent a few years in Dane County, and from there came to Portage County when it is was largely a wilderness and acquired eighty acres in Buena Vista Township. He was one of the successful men of his day in agricultural operations, and acquired a fine estate of 330 acres. He was always an ardent republican in politics, and in 1863 enlisted in the Union army and saw eighteen months of active service before his discharge. At one time he served as assessor of Buena Vista Township and was a member of the Grand Army Post of Plover.

His wife, Almira Webster, was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, May 14, 1838, daughter of Linus and Sophia Webster, an old family of Portage County elsewhere referred to. She died March 14, 1903, the mother of nine children: Linus and Harvey Byron, twins, Porter Ebenezer, Solon Hatch, Eliza Sophia, Herman, Fannie Jane, Hattie Jane and Berton Leon. Fannie Jane married Walter Haroun, and both are now deceased. One of their two children, Violet, married Lem Burke, now living at Stevens Point. Harvey William, the other son of this sister, has always lived with his uncle, Linus M. Sherman, who is a bachelor. Mr. Sherman's brother, Solon Hatch Sherman, served as a soldier in the Spanish-American war and is still living in Buena Vista Township.

Linus M. Sherman grew up in Buena Vista Township, attended the public schools, and aside from about two years of work on the county roads has always been a practical farmer. His energetic operations are now conducted on a place of 252 acres, a portion being land owned by his father and the rest the old Jacob Meyers estate. Mr. Sherman is a republican voter, but has never sought office. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

**HENRY ANTON WIMME.** The career of Henry Anton Wimme, of Nelsonville, has been one in which his energies have found an outlet in various lines of endeavor, and in which he has shown his versatility by making a success of a number of occupations, some of them widely separated in their form. Whatever he has set out to do he has done with his whole heart, and this energetic and persistent application of his abilities has resulted in the attainment of a satisfying success when still at an age when many men are just getting under way in their struggle for independence.

Henry Anton Wimme was born on a farm in New Hope Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, in 1872, and is a son of Gunder Olson and Bertha Helen (Rambeck) Wemme. The original family name was spelled Wemme, but has been changed by the subject of this review. The paternal grandfather was Ole Wemme, who, after the death of his wife, Ingeborg, in Norway, immigrated to the United States and located in Portage County, where he passed the rest of his life in farming. His son, Gunder O. Wemme, was born in Norway and accompanied his father to this country, and after an experiment in farming turned his attention to the plastering business, which he followed with success for a period of forty-five years. Mrs. Wemme was also born in Norway and came to America as a young woman with her parents.

Henry Anton Wimme received his education in the district schools of Portage County, and as a youth devoted himself to learning the plasterer's trade under his father. When he was twenty years of age he left the parental roof to strike out for himself, at that time going to Hamlin County, South Dakota, where he started farming. In 1899 or 1900 he went to Racine, Wisconsin, where he secured a position with the J. I. Case Threshing Machine Company, and for nearly a year was employed in the shops of this concern, thus becoming thoroughly familiar with the mechanism of this kind of machinery, a knowledge that was extremely valuable to him in later years, for he spent nineteen profitable fall seasons in the threshing business. For eight years he also worked in the lumber woods and sawmills during the winter months in the vicinity of Nelsonville, traveling back and forth between Wisconsin and the Dakotas. In 1907 he went to Grand Forks County, North Dakota, where he engaged in threshing, and in 1908 went to Canada and homesteaded 160 acres of land in Kuroki, Saskatchewan, living there for four years and going back to North Dakota each season to operate his threshing outfit. In the spring of 1911 Mr. Wimme proved up on his claim, and in that year came to Nelsonville, where he engaged in the hardware business in partnership with his father-in-law, George S. Diver, under the firm style of Wimme & Diver. Mr. Wimme has continued his energetic methods of procedure in his work, and his enthusiasm, spirit, initiative and resource have done much to make this business the big success that it is. A handsome, well-selected and complete stock of shelf and heavy hardware is carried, and a large and representative patronage has been secured among the people of this part of the county. Mr. Wimme is what is known in business and civic circles as a "live wire." In spite of the fact that his business interests are large and take up a large part of his attention, and that he has also devoted a part of his leisure to learning the tinning trade since entering the hardware business, he takes an active part in matters pertaining to the public welfare and is a good supporter of public-spirited movements.

Mr. Wimme was married in the fall of 1909 to Miss Eva Pearl Diver, daughter of George S. Diver, and they are the parents of five children: Gilford Henry, Evelyn Harriet, Helen Rosell, Lelah Elvira and Bernice Aline. Mr. and Mrs. Wimme and their children belong to the Lutheran Church.

FRANK J. SPALENKA is a member of a family that has been well known in Portage County for over thirty years, and during his own comparatively brief active career has developed an extensive business as contractor and architect at Stevens Point. He has a natural ability plus the thorough training and experience in technical and practical lines, and those who have required his services have felt thoroughly satisfied with the reliable and efficient manner in which he performs every commission.

Mr. Spalenka was born in Bohemia May 31, 1883, son of John and Anna (Adams) Spalenka, both natives of the same country. The father was a contractor in Bohemia and had a rather extensive business, which took him to various large cities, including Vienna and Prague. In 1884 he brought his family to America, locating at Chicago for a year and a half, and about 1886 moved to Stevens Point, where he continued in business until his death in 1907, at the age of sixty-

four. His chief business at Stevens Point was as a mason contractor. He built a good home at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Meadow Street, where most of his children grew up. This house has since been sold and Mrs. Spalenka, his widow, aged sixty-seven, now lives with her son Frank. John Spalenka after acquiring American citizenship voted as a democrat and was an active member of the Catholic Church. There were six children: Mary Anna, Emily, Louise, Frank J. and Julia, all of whom are still living.

Frank J. Spalenka, the only son, was educated in Stevens Point in the grammar and high schools. While preparing himself for his profession he spent about four years in travel, working as a draftsman and also taking technical courses in Columbia College. He then returned to Stevens Point and has rapidly been accumulating a satisfying business as a general contractor and architect. Mr. Spalenka in 1913 built one of the artistic homes of the city at 426 Normal Avenue, and he lives there with his mother and sister Louise. He is unmarried. In politics he is independent and is a member of the Catholic Church. He also belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the Modern Woodmen of America.

His oldest sister, Mary, married A. J. Kujawa, of Stevens Point, and they now live at Rudolph, Wisconsin, where he is engaged in general mercantile business. Mr. and Mrs. Kujawa have two children. Anna, the second daughter, married Frank Ollmann, of Stevens Point, and they now live in Chicago, where he is a mail carrier. They have five children. Emily, unmarried, is a graduate of the State Normal School of Stevens Point and of the Chicago Art Institute and Columbia College of Music at Chicago, and is a teacher of wide experience and has made a splendid record in her work. At the present time she is superintendent of drawing and music at Elko, Nevada. She holds a teacher's certificate in Wisconsin, Nevada, Montana, Idaho, and the State of Washington. Louise Spalenka, who lives at home with her brother and mother, finished the elementary course in the State Normal School and has been a bookkeeper at Chicago and Grand Rapids and Rhinelander, Wisconsin, and has also been a teacher of special courses in the business college at Stevens Point. Julia, the youngest daughter, attended the Stevens Point High School, was in Chicago for about two years, and is now the wife of John Wilkins, formerly of Waukesha but now living at Rudolph, where he is associated in business with his brother-in-law, A. J. Kujawa.

LUDWIG H. JOHNSON. In financial circles of Portage County the name of Johnson is one that is well known. This family has been connected with business and banking interests here for many years, and one of the representatives of the present generation who is sustaining the reputation of the family for soundness and ability is Ludwig H. Johnson, who has been cashier of the Bank of Nelsonville since it was founded in 1903. Mr. Johnson is one of the live and energetic men of this thriving little community and is always to be found connected with movements calculated to advance the interests of the village and its citizens.

Ludwig H. Johnson was born at New Hope, Portage County, Wisconsin, September 22, 1867, and is a son of Hans and Matilda (Stian-son) Johnson. Hans Johnson was an early settler, coming to Portage County a number of years before the Civil war and commencing his

career as a pilot during the days when they were floating lumber down the river. He was energetic and enterprising and a man of marked ability, and by investing his earnings wisely was able to accumulate land and timber interests and subsequently to build several sawmills, in which he manufactured lumber. As his interests grew and developed he turned his attention more and more to the banking business and became the owner of three institutions, one at Fremont, one at Ogdensburg and one at Nelsonville. In his later years he settled permanently at Nelsonville, where he lived with his daughter, at whose home he died. Mr. Johnson was a man who had received only ordinary advantages as to education and who acquired success through his own efforts and the profitable and intelligent use which he had made of his opportunities. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Julius, a resident of Iola, Waupaca County, Wisconsin; Nels, who is cashier of the Bank of Fremont; Theo, president of the Bank of Nelsonville and agent for the Ford automobile at this place; Ludwig H.; Hans, who is cashier of the Bank of Ogdensburg; Mrs. Hannah Olson, whose husband is a farmer of Portage County; and Minnie, who is a widow and resides at Nelsonville.

Ludwig H. Johnson was educated in the public schools and was reared to habits of industry and integrity, being given a good business training by his father. He continued to be associated with the elder man and with his brothers in various business enterprises until the founding of the Bank of Nelsonville, January 19, 1903, at which time he was made cashier of this institution, a position which he has retained to the present time. His capable handling of the funds entrusted to his care has been largely responsible for the success of this bank, which is accounted a safe and reliable one and which has honestly gained the kind of confidence that is absolutely necessary for the success of any monetary enterprise. In addition to owning stock in the bank, he is interested financially in the local creamery and the telephone company, and in various other ways is identified with the business interests of this locality. Of a progressive nature, anything that promises advancement along material, moral or civic lines appeals to him and finds in him a ready and generous supporter.

Mr. Johnson was married September 20, 1893, to Miss Caroline Bronstad. They have a summer cottage at Onneland Lake, which by many residents is called Johnson Lake. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson: Hjalmar, who was connected with Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis; Minerva, who is working in the Bank of Nelsonville with her father; Luella, who is attending the normal school; and Palmer, attending the graded school. Mr. Johnson's elder son has shown remarkable talent as a vocalist, and it depends upon his further advancement whether he will adopt singing as a career instead of the more prosaic banking business. He has made a very large strike of oil at Irvine, Kentucky, the output of which is of great value. He was drafted June 28, 1918, in the mustering office at Fort Riley, and he was taken by the Government from the Federal Reserve Bank at Minneapolis.

FRANK F. SHIPPY is one of the enterprising merchants of Stevens Point and is a son of John and Josephine Shippy, his father's place in both civic and public affairs of this county being well known and prominent and the subject of mention on other pages.

Frank F. Shippy was born at his father's home in Hull Township Portage County, October 14, 1878. He was educated both in the parochial and public schools of Stevens Point, including high school, and during the four years his father was register of deeds was employed in that county office. He then became clerk in his father's store and at the time of his father's death took charge of the family interests in the grocery business. He was thus occupied for four years, for another four years was in the real estate and loan business, and in 1913 entered his present line as a shoe merchant at 310 Main Street under the name Kilowski & Shippy. On May 1, 1917, Mr. Shippy acquired the entire business and has one of the best stores of the kind in the county.

In politics he is a democrat, and quite active in party affairs. He is a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church. In February, 1909, he married Miss Lillian Sobish, who was reared and educated at Stevens Point. She is a daughter of Joseph and Juliana Sobish, early settlers of this county. Her mother died in 1914 and her father is still living retired. Mr. and Mrs. Shippy have five sons: Earl; Raymond and Vernon, twins; Ralph and Donald.

H. JAY BRAWLEY. A former companion of the wilderness of Portage County, with the exception of the time when he wore the uniform of his country as a soldier during the Civil war H. Jay Brawley has passed his life within its boundaries and here has worked his way to a well-earned success in agriculture and to a high position in public esteem. He came here about the time of the beginning of pale-face occupation, and much of his early life was passed in the midst of the Indians whose original home this was and who gradually moved westward before the constantly coming tides of civilization. More than three-quarters of a century, included in Mr. Brawley's age, have witnessed wonderful changes, and during this time Mr. Brawley's own history has been the same as that of the county. He is now living in comfortable retirement at his home at Stevens Point.

Mr. Brawley was born in the wilderness of Linwood Township, on Mill Creek, Portage County, Wisconsin, August 28, 1841, a son of Abe and Sarah (Bennett) Brawley. His grandfather was Hugh Brawley, who only came to Wisconsin as a visitor and died on a farm near Meadville in Crawford County, Pennsylvania. Abe Brawley was born in Pennsylvania in 1812, and as a young man went to what is now West Virginia, where he was married to Sarah Bennett, who was born in Virginia in 1811. Not long after their union, in 1835, they migrated to Portage County, Wisconsin, where Abe Brawley built one of the early business structures, a sawmill located on Mill Creek. This he operated with a measurable degree of success until 1844, when he located at Stevens Point and built a sawmill, of which he was proprietor in partnership with Moses M. Strong, who was a noted attorney of the pioneer days. Subsequently Mr. Brawley became registrar of the land office here, with General A. G. Ellis as receiver, and became widely known and very influential, as well as an extensive land holder. Brawley Street was named in his honor. He was also one of the forceful democrats of his day, wielding no small amount of power in his locality, and was justice of the peace for a number of years, a capacity in which he married the first couple to be united at Stevens Point. He was a Free Mason and an active Episcopalian, and furnished much



of the lumber with which to build the first Episcopal Church. He and his wife were the parents of nine children of their own, and had also an adopted child who came into their home after the first four of their children were born. She was Melissa, a daughter of a Mrs. Morris, the first white woman to be buried at Plover, and is now deceased. The other children were as follows: Benton and Elizabeth, who are deceased; H. Jay, of this review; Lucy Ann; Abe and Janey, who are deceased; Virginia, who is now Mrs. Bailey, of South Bend, Indiana; and William and John, who both died young.

H. Jay Brawley was but four years of age when brought to Stevens Point, and here he was reared amongst the Indians, with little redskins as his playmates, from whom he learned to speak the savage tongue fluently. After attending the early public schools he became a student at Lawrence College, Appleton, Wisconsin, under Professor Reed, but did not get along well there and accordingly ran away. Later he went to school at Delavan, Wisconsin, for about two years, then returning home. When the Civil war came on he was eager to go to the front with the other lads of his neighborhood, but there was strong paternal objection, and it was not until August 6, 1862, that he succeeded in entering the army. On that date he became a member of Company H, Third Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry, with which he served until the close of the war, being with his regiment throughout the struggle and securing his honorable discharge June 19, 1865. He had a splendid record while in the army for bravery and faithful performance of duty, and when he returned to his home he entered immediately upon the duties of the civilian, for some years being engaged in the woods, running the river and driving logs. Eventually he turned his attention to agriculture, and in that vocation found his success, retiring some years ago with a satisfying competence. During the past thirty years he has resided at No. 508 Wisconsin Street, where he has his own comfortable home. Mr. Brawley is a democrat, but not a politician, contenting himself with being a good citizen. He still holds his old companions of army days in fond remembrance, and is a popular member of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. Brawley was married December 4, 1887, to Miss Clara Belle Butterfield, who was born at Racine, Wisconsin, March 29, 1852, a daughter of Jonas and Mary Ann (McGraw) Butterfield, who came at an early day to Racine, where Mrs. Butterfield, a famous herb doctor of the pioneer times and called upon by many families in time of sickness, passed away. Mr. Butterfield later went to Chemung, Illinois, where his death occurred. He was a son of one of the earliest settlers of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Brawley have no children.

WILLIAM O'KEEFE is a brother of Michael O'Keefe, elsewhere referred to, and the brothers live on farms on opposite sides of the road in Stockton Township, both their places being portions of the old homestead owned by their father, the late Patrick O'Keefe.

It was here that William O'Keefe was born April 15, 1863. As a boy he attended the public schools, and is now busily engaged in handling his well kept farm of 120 acres. Mr. O'Keefe is a democrat, is now serving as a member of the school board, and is affiliated with the Catholic Church.

On June 25, 1890, he married Miss Annie O'Keefe, who was born

in Portage County December 2, 1863. To their marriage were born six children. Walter Joseph, born August 10, 1891, died February 28, 1894; Raphael John, born in 1893, was educated in the public schools of the country and at Stevens Point for two years, and is now a brakeman with the Soo line, living at Stevens Point; Mary Catherine Monica, born August 9, 1896, is in the Notre Dame convent at Milwaukee; William Alois Myron was born December 11, 1899, and is still at home; Florence Anastasia, born November 8, 1901, died July 25, 1910; Edward Adrian Roy, born April 6, 1904, is a student in the public schools.

Mrs. O'Keefe is a daughter of John and Catherine (Doyle) O'Keefe. Her parents were both natives of Canada, her father born in 1833 and her mother in 1837. They married in Canada in 1857 and in the same year came to Portage County, where her father worked in a sawmill in Hull Township, and later located on a farm in Stockton Township. He improved his land and lived there until his death on May 22, 1891, while his wife passed away October 22, 1904. He was a democrat and a Catholic. Mrs. O'Keefe was one of ten children: Margaret; Catherine, who died in 1916, aged fifty-eight; Mary; John, who died on the old homestead in 1906, at the age of forty-one; Annie; Anastasia; Jane, who died in infancy; Frances; Theresa; and Edward.

**SAMUEL N. BROWN.** By reason of six years of residence Samuel N. Brown, now living retired in the Village of Almond, is one of the best authorities on the older life and affairs of Portage County. Many of those events which are told as history were vividly impressed upon his memory at the time of their action, and he has not only been a witness but a participant in those changing scenes of the past.

Mr. Brown was born March 2, 1836, son of Fuller and Elizabeth (Smith) Brown. His parents had the following children: Mary Chapin, Fuller, Levi, Smith and Samuel.

Samuel N. Brown came to Wisconsin in the spring of 1857, spending a time in Portage County, but for three years was at Wausau, working in the lumber woods and in the lumber mills and also on a farm. He was head sawyer at the Red River Mill for a time. He then came to the vicinity of the Village of Almond in Portage County, buying a farm in section 20. He was a progressive and successful farmer for many years, but finally sold his property and now lives in a comfortable home in the village.

When the Civil war came on Mr. Brown was one of the volunteers, and as a member of the Thirty-Second Wisconsin Infantry saw much active service, in battle and marches and camp life. He was under Grant during the Vicksburg campaign, and took part in the Meridian campaign in Mississippi. His services were finally terminated as the result of a sunstroke.

Mr. Brown has many times been honored by his fellow citizens with offices of public trust and responsibility. He has served as town chairman, as assessor and treasurer, and finally refused to accept office any longer. For a long time he performed service as janitor for the Methodist Church and the high school. He was school district clerk for nine years.

October 4, 1859, in the Town of Almond, Mr. Brown married Eliza Doolittle. Her father was the pioneer Methodist minister in this section of Wisconsin and established the church at Almond.



*Samuel S. Brown*

This pioneer church stood where the cemetery now is and was made by taking an old building that had been used on a farm, putting seats in it and using it first for a school and also for religious services. Mr. Brown recalls that the first funeral service was held here in 1854, and the body was laid to rest on a knoll where the house of Mr. Brown now stands. The body was afterward interred in the regular cemetery. Mr. Brown is the only charter member still living of Eldad Post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

After the death of his first wife he was married January 3, 1870, to Hattie E. Bowen. She is also deceased. Mr. Brown's children are: Sheldon A., born September 4, 1861; Mary L., born March 22, 1866; Ada L., born August 14, 1868, and now deceased; Oscar F., born September 17, 1870; Hettie H., born November 20, 1874; and Chester A., born January 26, 1886. The son Sheldon now lives at St. Paul. Mary is married and lives in Deronda. Oscar, Hettie and Chester are all married and live at Almond. Chester makes his home with his father and has been in the barber business for seventeen years. Oscar is a carpenter. Hettie is the wife of Mr. Banks and lives on a farm near Almond. Chester married Vern Kechum and has one child, Earl.

PAUL MIOSKOWSKI is one of the younger business men of Stevens Point, and is identified with his father in one of the most important industries of the county seat. This is the Stevens Point Tannery, F. Mioskowski & Son, proprietors. The business has been developed by men who are thoroughly practical tanners, and the output is no small contribution to the aggregate volume of Portage County commerce. The firm makes a specialty of custom work. They have facilities for the manufacture of hand sewed gloves and mittens, hand made fur coats, and they do a large business in green hides of horses and cows and manufacture them into robes and coats. The headquarters of this business is 211 Public Square.

The head of the company is Mr. Frank Mioskowski, who was born in Poland February 20, 1860. He came to America and located at Berlin, Wisconsin, at the age of eighteen, married there, and for a number of years worked in a local tannery. In 1895 he came to Stevens Point, and entered the tanning business in association with Mr. Felix Lukasavietz. This partnership ran along for about seven years, at the end of which time Mr. Frank Mioskowski acquired the business and took in his son John as partner. This son died October 12, 1913, and Paul Mioskowski, another son, succeeded him in the business and is now its active manager.

Mr. Frank Mioskowski bought a fine farm of 220 acres in Carson Township, and he now lives in the country and spends much of his time looking after his crops and fields. He is a member of St. Peter's Church. Frank Mioskowski married Mary Bernart, who was born in Berlin, Wisconsin, in 1870. Her father, John Bernart, was a native of Poland, and an early settler at Berlin, Wisconsin. He is still living there aged about eighty-five. His first wife was the mother of Mary Mioskowski, and he has twice been married since then.

Frank Mioskowski and wife had a family of fourteen children. August and Laura died in infancy. The living are: Louis, of Marshfield, Wisconsin; Thomas, a furrier of Merrill, Wisconsin; John; Paul;

Jessie; Roman; Anton; Elven; Gertrude; Stephen; Agnes; and Romona.

Paul Mioskowski was born at Berlin, Wisconsin, June 29, 1894, but from early infancy has lived in Stevens Point. He attended St. Peter parochial schools for three and a half years and after that was educated in the Fifth Ward grammar school and in the high school. He was only nineteen years old when in 1913 he was made a partner in the Stevens Point tannery, and he had previously acquired much of the technical and business knowledge.

Paul Mioskowski is a democrat in politics and a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church.

**JOHN FRANCIS SIMS.** The educator of today must be more than a pedagogue; he must feel himself a part of the practical work-a-day world. He must be a statesman in his attitude toward government. He must be a benefactor in his sympathy with humanity's struggle for social and economic betterment. Ultimately he must be a high priest for his pupils in their intellectual and spiritual striving for fuller development. Portage County can boast such an educator in the person of President John Francis Sims of the Stevens Point State Normal School, a man fitted both by native ability and by education to be a trainer of teachers.

John Francis Sims, the son of Joseph and Mary Mangin Sims, was born in Buffalo, New York, April 21, 1862. His father was a sailor both on the high seas and the Great Lakes. It is evident to all that President Sims has brought the seaman's untiring energy and endurance to his work as an educator. At this point it would be omitting a vital factor in Mr. Sims' life to pass over the influence of his mother upon him. Her patience, her charity, her resourcefulness furnished ideals which have through the years found exemplification in the son.

President Sims laid the groundwork of his higher education in the public schools of Buffalo, New York, and Manitowoc, Wisconsin, graduating from the high school of the latter city in 1881. During the last two years of his high school course he taught in neighboring country schools, and continued in that work until 1883. He then accepted the principalship of the Colby, Wisconsin, High School, which he filled until 1891. In that year he was chosen superintendent of schools of Onalaska, and held the position for five years. From 1896 to 1906 he held the chair of Geography, History and School Management at the River Falls Normal School, and during the last four years of his incumbency was the Institute Conductor of the school. The success of his work in that capacity led to his call to the presidency of the State Normal School at Stevens Point in August, 1906. During the years of his service as its chief executive that institution has gathered headway as never before. As an indication of the scope and nature of his outside connections it may be stated that he has served as president of the Northwestern Wisconsin Teachers' Associations, and of the Wisconsin Teachers' Association. He is an active member of the National Council of Education and Wisconsin director of the National Educational Association. President Sims is now serving on a committee of the National Council which has been appointed to investigate and report on the status of the rural schools of the United States and other countries, with a view of improving conditions there found. The National Council of Education is an organization with a mem-

bership limited to 120, and it is therefore an honor to be identified with it. Aside from his duties in connection with the Normal School and the educational organizations with which he is associated, President Sims has written as a chapter in a forthcoming volume to be published by the Wisconsin Teachers' Association "The History of the Wisconsin State Normal Schools," has largely and regularly contributed to the Wisconsin Journal of Education and similar publications, and has lectured widely on topics connected with school work as well as those of world interest.

Surely Portage County may laud statewide and nationwide this scholar, patriot, orator, and man of affairs.

JOHN C. BOWERS, whose home has been in Stevens Point for seven years, is a highly respected citizen of the community and widely known among railway men in Wisconsin. Railroading has been his active work for twenty years, and for more than twelve years he has been a conductor for the Soo lines.

Mr. Bowers was born in Ohio June 12, 1875, son of George and Eva (Poundstone) Bowers. His parents, both natives of Ohio, were born on the same day and same year, March 16, 1845, and are still living on a farm east of Columbus. George Bowers for many years followed his trade as a cabinet maker. He has been quite active and influential in democratic politics in this part of Ohio and has filled several county offices. He is a Methodist, while his wife is a Lutheran. Their seven children were: Mary, Fred, John C., Ella, Harry Gilbert, Walter and Lizzie. All are living except Lizzie.

John C. Bowers spent his boyhood days on an Ohio farm. His education came from the public schools and not long after leaving home he came to Wisconsin in 1898 and located at Mellen in Ashland County. In 1902 he began railroading as a brakeman with the Wisconsin Central and attained promotion to the post and responsibilities of conductor in 1906. In 1911 he moved his home to Stevens Point, and he now resides at 707 Church Street. He is a member in good standing of the Order of Railway Conductors, affiliates with the Knights of the Maccabees, and votes an independent ballot. He is a Presbyterian. Mr. Bowers' father was a Union soldier, and participated in the capture of Morgan during his raid in Southern Ohio.

In 1896 Mr. Bowers married Mary Rankin, of Ohio. She died September 28, 1915, leaving three children, Eva, Irene and Louise. Eva is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School with the class of 1916 and is member of the class of 1918 in the State Normal School. Irene is a senior in the High School. November 21, 1917, Mr. Bowers married Mrs. Hulda Kyle, of Colby, Wisconsin. They have one child, Mildred Marie, born August 22, 1918. Mrs. Bowers was born at Colby August 1, 1888, daughter of Peter and Catherine (Brown) Hoppen. Her father, who is well known among Wisconsin railway people, was born at Cleveland, near Sheboygan, Wisconsin, September 3, 1855. His wife was born in the same locality March 3, 1858. For about forty years their home has been in Colby. Mr. Hoppen is a professional cook and for years served the Wisconsin Central Railway in that capacity. He is now living retired. He is independent in politics, is a great reader, and finds his chief pleasure in his library. He is a member of the Masonic Order and the Methodist Episcopal

Church. Mr. and Mrs. Hoppen have three children: William, of Chicago; George, of Stevens Point; and Mrs. Hulda Bowers.

**FRANK J. MERONK.** Such capable citizens as Frank J. Meronk are the men who are now bearing the brunt of the agricultural activities of Portage County. He is a general farmer and stockman in Buena Vista Township and has one of the highly improved places in that community.

It is a matter of general comment wherever the Polish people have gone in Portage County they have made good as citizens, as business men and farmers, and the county has greatly benefited from this class of people. Mr. Meronk is of Polish parentage but is a native of Portage County. He was born at Sharon in this county May 1, 1864, son of John and Barbara Meronk. His parents were both natives of German Poland, the father born in 1843 and the mother in 1845. They settled in Portage County in 1863, their first home being in Sharon Township, where they developed a large farm of 280 acres. The father is a democrat and both are members of the Polish Catholic Church. They are still living, now retired, and they have transmitted their hardy virtues and vigor to their children, all of whom are still living, ten in number, named Frank, John, Rosana, August, Albert, Frances, Nick, Antone, Theodore and Stephen.

Frank J. Meronk grew up on the old homestead in Sharon Township and was educated in parochial schools. For thirty years or more he has been a practical farmer. The first farm he owned was in Stockton Township. He lived there nine years, and then sold out and bought land in Plover Township, where he had 300 acres under his control. Later he moved to Buena Vista Township, and for four years was on a rented farm, at the end of which time he bought his present place of 202 acres. This farm is now well improved with good buildings, and is ample evidence of the thrift and vigor with which Mr. Meronk prosecutes all his enterprises.

He is a public spirited citizen of the republican faith in politics, and while living in Stockton Township was a member of the local school board. He and his family are Polish Catholics.

February 3, 1891, Mr. Meronk married Miss Frances Cieseski. She was born in Stockton Township September 22, 1868, daughter of Paul and Mary Cieseski. Her parents arrived in Portage County in 1861, and for many years lived on their farm in Stockton Township, where her father died in 1906 and her mother in 1899. Her father married for his first wife Alsbeta Cieseski and the children of that marriage were Mary, John and Joseph. Mrs. Meronk is the only child of her father's second marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Meronk have a large household of children, all living, twelve in number. Their names in order of birth are: Nick, Frank, Aggie, Verna, Frances, Henry, Alice, Thomas, Antone, David, Stalia and Estell.

**GEORGE STERTZ** is one of the prominent men of Junction City and that community and is now chairman of the Junction City Board, and has been a prosperous farmer of this section for over forty years.

He was born in Portage County and came with his parents and other members of the family to Junction City in 1875. Here after

finishing his education in the common schools he went to farming and from that occupation has provided for his material needs.

His father, George Stertz, came to America in 1825 and in 1868 settled at Stevens Point, and from there in 1875 moved to Junction City, taking up a homestead in section 6 of Carson Township. George Stertz, Sr., married Lottie Dempsey.

**FRANK X. KLUCK.** Some men have the faculty of doing more than one thing well, and their enterprise usually counts as a substantial benefit and service in the community where they live. Thus Frank X. Kluck, one of the native sons of Portage County, is not only operating a good farm in Sharon Township, but is also supplying the community around Little Waupun with high grade merchandise, and besides his part as a merchant and farmer has also served in public office.

Mr. Kluck was born on the old homestead in Sharon Township February 10, 1871, and is a son of August and Mary (Esker) Kluck. His parents, who are still living, came to Portage County in 1865, and a more particular account of their fortunes and their experiences in this county and in their native Poland will be found on other pages of this publication.

It was at the old farm of his parents in Sharon Township that Frank X. Kluck spent his early years. As a boy he helped his father clear the woods from part of the land. He attended the parochial schools in Polonia and also the public school of district No. 9. For three years he lived the strenuous life of a woodsman, another experience was working in mines for nine months, and for about seven months he was an employe of the Lake Shore Railroad. He set himself up independently by buying ninety acres in Sharon Township, and subsequently acquired the twenty acres where he now has his home. In July, 1904, Mr. Kluck engaged in general merchandising at Little Waupun, and has been conducting a first class store in that community for fourteen years. He also served eleven years as assessor of his township. Mr. Kluck is a loyal democrat and is active in the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia.

On November 10, 1893, he married Miss Frances Koziczowski. Mrs. Kluck was born in Sharon Township January 12, 1876, daughter of Charles and Mary Koziczowski and a granddaughter of Michael and Frances Koziczowski. This is the oldest Polish family to establish permanent homes in Portage County. They have been prominent people here for over sixty years, and extended reference to the family is made on other pages of this publication. Mrs. Kluck's father was born in German Poland in 1846 and her mother in the same country in 1858. He came to Portage County with his parents and was a successful farmer in Sharon Township until his death September 1, 1912. Her widowed mother is still living. Mrs. Kluck is one of five living children: Frances, Dominik, Frank, Rosa and Charles.

The stimulus and inspiration to the efforts and thrift of Mr. and Mrs. Kluck have been the presence of a large family of children requiring their care and provision for their useful training and education. Their home has been blessed with fourteen sons and daughters, whose names in order of birth are: Nick, Felix, Anastasia, David, Andrew, Ernest, William, Harry, Sadie, Leona, Bennie, Regina and



Stanley, twins, and Helena. All are still living except Nick. The son Felix was educated in the public schools of district No. 9, also attended business college at Stevens Point, and a couple of years ago joined the United States Army and went with it to the Mexican border. He was in the aviation corps and was injured while in service. After receiving his honorable discharge he returned home, and for a time was a street car conductor in Milwaukee. Then, with the opening of the present great war, he joined the United States Army at Camp Douglas with Troop I and is now a part of the Polish contingent of the Allied Armies.

**E. N. WOLD.** One of the substantial business men of Amherst is E. N. Wold, general merchant, who has been a resident of this place since childhood, and as a good citizen has done his part in the upbuilding of the village as a commercial center of Portage County. Mr. Wold is a self made man in the sense that what he owns and what he is in the estimation of his fellow citizens have been brought about through his unassisted individual efforts.

E. N. Wold was born December 11, 1871, in Waupaca County, Wisconsin. His parents were Ole and Johanna (Barbo) Wold, who were born, reared and married in Norway. In 1870 they came to the United States. The father was an honest, industrious man, but he had learned no trade and hence after coming to the new strange country, was dependent on his work as a general laborer. After a year passed in Waupaca County he came to Amherst and here he and his wife both died in middle life. They were good, Christian people, faithful members of the Norwegian Lutheran Church. They were the parents of four children: E. N., Lena, Sevren and Amanda.

E. N. Wold obtained his education in the public schools at Amherst. He then learned the butcher's trade and conducted a meat business here until 1901, his honesty and accommodating manner in trading bringing him a generous amount of patronage and many personal friends who were ready to continue as customers when he bought the grocery business of F. E. Allen. He devoted his attention to his market and grocery for some time and then determined to expand in order to meet his constantly increasing trade. In 1914, in order to carry out his plans for a general store, for which he saw a fine opening, he built his present handsome brick building, with dimensions of 35 by 170 feet, very favorably located, and has occupied it ever since. He has been very successful in his business undertakings.

Mr. Wold has never been very active in politics although a good and interested citizen when the general welfare of the town is under consideration, being ever ready to do his part and co-operate with others, and his business sagacity has made him a very valuable adviser on many occasions.

Of social instincts and genial disposition, Mr. Wold is valued in the various organizations to which he belongs, these including such well known bodies as the Odd Fellows, the Woodmen of America, the order of Beavers, and the Equitable Fraternal Union. He is an active member and liberal contributor of the Lutheran Church at Amherst.

**MICHAEL HEITZINGER.** In making productive the formerly wooded regions of Central Wisconsin no one class of people did a more steady

and effective part than the German element. It was as a representative of the German Bavarians that the late Michael Heitzinger was known in Portage County, and of his work and standing as a home maker and citizen only the highest words of praise may be spoken.

He was born in Bavaria July 14, 1856, and was educated in his native land. In 1883 he immigrated to America, first locating in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and about 1885 coming to Portage County, locating on a homestead near Junction City. This home farm was in Eau Pleine Township. He and his brother-in-law, John Meindle, took the contract to cut a road through a portion of this township for a distance of three miles, and did all that tremendous labor, requiring many days, for \$120. Michael Heitzinger finally relinquished his homestead to his father-in-law, Peter Meindle, and went to Wausau, where for several years he was employed in a brewery. Returning to Portage County, he bought forty acres where his widow now resides, later another forty acres, and Mrs. Heitzinger since his death has increased the home place to 120 acres of fruitful and valuable land. Michael Heitzinger cleared much of this tract and was one of the prosperous agriculturists of the county when death stayed his hand in 1903. He began voting as a democrat, but later affiliated with the republican party, and was an active member of the Catholic Church.

Mr. Heitzinger married in June, 1886, Miss Catherine Meindle. Mrs. Heitzinger was born in Bavaria March 16, 1866, daughter of Peter and Frances (Giseple) Meindle. Her parents came to Eau Pleine Township of Portage County in 1886, and homesteaded here, where her father died in 1898 and her mother in 1904. Her father was sixty-one and her mother sixty-seven when they passed away. Mrs. Heitzinger was one and the oldest of four children. Her sister Mary married Martin Bieberstein and resides at Phillips, Wisconsin. Her brother John, who was born in Germany in 1874 and was twelve years of age when brought to America, at one time worked as a baker and later as a street car conductor in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and finally came to Portage County and bought eighty acres of land in Eau Pleine Township, where he is now one of the progressive agriculturists. He married in 1899 Alma Boetcher, of Birnamwood, Wisconsin, and they have a family of six children, named Eulalie, Juanita, Ormond, Eleanor, Louis and Edwin, all living. Mrs. Heitzinger's younger brother is Joseph, who lives at Phillips, Wisconsin.

Mrs. Heitzinger since her husband's death has well managed her affairs and with the aid of her children is doing a capable part in handling the fine farm in Eau Pleine Township. She is the mother of nine children, named Michael, Mary, Anna, Joseph, Emma, Frances, Catharine, Martin and Louie. All are still living except Mary.

Mrs. Heitzinger's oldest son, Michael, born September 6, 1887, managed the farm from the time of his father's death, when only fifteen years old, until the age of twenty-three. He then married Miss Mabel Erickson, of Stevens Point, Wisconsin. On October 19, 1910, Michael rented a farm of 120 acres for three years after his marriage. Like his father, always a hard working man, he bought eighty acres of timber which he has turned into a fine farm. After five years of hard labor on this farm Michael sold his farm and in turn bought the F. J. Pitts farm of 140 acres, on which he will reside in the spring. Michael is the father of two children, Margaret, born April 24, 1912, and Michael, born September 30, 1915. His wife is a graduate of the

Stevens Point High School and taught school until her marriage to Michael.

Mary, the next oldest, born March 2, 1889, died when an infant.

Anna is married and lives on a farm in Herman, Minnesota. She was born October 20, 1890.

Joseph, born August 4, 1892, managed his mother's farm after the marriage of his brother Michael until September 6, 1918, when he answered the call of his country. He was in training in Camp Grant, Illinois, and from there he was transferred to Camp Hancock, Georgia. Joseph is field bugler and will remain in the army until he is not needed, when he will return home to take up the duties of a farmer on his mother's farm.

Emma, born November 12, 1893, married June 11, 1912, Joseph Fredrich, of Mosinee, where she resides. Her husband is employed in the paper mill. They are the parents of two children, Raymond, born May 18, 1913, and Donald, born May 6, 1915.

Frances married Charles Ziveny, of Junction City, April 15, 1914. Her husband is an operator for the Soo line and they reside at Owen, Wisconsin.

Catharine, born April 16, 1898, graduated from the teachers' course at Phillips, Wisconsin, May 31, 1917. She is now teaching in a consolidated district at Kennan, Wisconsin. She has been employed in this district her second year.

Martin, born December 2, 1899, and Louie, born February 4, 1902, are now taking care of the farm until their brother Joseph returns, when Martin intends to join the navy. Louie will remain on the farm.

**FRANK UROWSKI.** An individual's possible control over early environment, youthful disadvantages and discouraging circumstances is strikingly demonstrated in the career of Frank Urowski, a well known business man and public official of Stevens Point. Mr. Urowski entered upon his career apparently ill-fitted to compete successfully with his more fortunate fellows. In a land not his own, with but meager advantages in an educational way and forced to accept conditions that robbed him of many of the things which are considered the rightful possessions of youth, it was hardly expected that he would quickly rise to business success and public prominence, yet this is what has been accomplished by Mr. Urowski, who has been for the past ten years alderman of the Fourth Ward of Stevens Point.

Frank Urowski was born in German Poland, January 9, 1873, a son of Anton Urowski. There were three children in the family, Katie, Mary and Frank, and when the last named was about three months old the mother died. In 1880 the father left Poland for America, where he had intended to make a home for his children, and the remainder of his life was passed in this country, at various occupations, principally in the City of Chicago, where many of his fellow countrymen reside and where his death occurred in 1916, when he was eighty-two years of age.

When Anton Urowski left Poland he did not have the means wherewith to take his children to the new country, and they were accordingly left at the home of an aunt, with whom they lived until the death of that good woman, when other relatives sent them to America to join their father. For a short time Frank Urowski attended the public schools of Chicago, quickly learning the language and customs of

America and proving an apt and eager scholar. His first visit to Portage County was when he lived at Polonia, a small community of about 200 population, where for a short time he attended school, but he and his sisters then returned to Chicago and that city continued to be his home until he was eighteen years of age. After his education was completed Mr. Urowski began learning the trade of barber, successfully passed through his apprenticeship, and for a time worked as a journeyman. In August, 1891, he came to Stevens Point, and not long thereafter opened a barber shop of his own, which has ever since enjoyed a constantly increasing trade. Mr. Urowski has a first class establishment, with the most modern equipment, and his place of business, at 216 Public Square, is patronized by representative business men and the best class of trade. He is an enterprising and progressive man of business, who makes many friends and keeps them indefinitely, and his reputation in business circles is of the best. A democrat in his political views, for a number of years he has been considered one of the leaders of his party here, and his council record, as alderman of the Fourth Ward for the past ten years, shows that his work has been constructive and of marked benefit to the city of his adoption. Mr. Urowski is a member of the Catholic Church.

Mr. Urowski was married November 7, 1892, to Miss Mary Balabasinski, of Stevens Point, and to this union there have been born five children: Agnes, Mamie, Wanda, Regina and Viola, all living. The pleasant family home, owned by Mr. Urowski, is located at No. 515 Sixth Avenue.

HARRY RAYMOND GRANT is one of the younger men of Portage County who by experience, capabilities and circumstances are well fitted to meet the patriotic demands for increased production in the field of agriculture. Mr. Grant is a prominent farmer of Belmont Township, has a large amount of land at his disposal, and knows how to work it to the best advantage and for a maximum of returns to himself and for the country in general.

On this farm which he now cultivates Mr. Grant was born August 27, 1890. He represents the third generation of the family residence in this county. His parents were James William and Louisa (Fenton) Grant. His father was also born in Belmont Township, September 26, 1857. His mother was born in the same locality in October, 1868. Mr. Grant's paternal grandfather, William Grant, was a native of England, married there, and on coming to America lived in New York State for several years. From there he came to Wisconsin and settled in Lanark Township of Portage County, bought and owned a farm for two years, and then located in section 11 of Belmont Township. Several years later he sold that place and acquired another farm in section 14, and after five years bought a farm in section 11. This was his home about ten years, when he retired and acquired a small property of three acres adjoining the city of Waupaca, where he lived for fifteen years. He then moved into the city of Waupaca, and after three years his home was with his son James W. Grant. He is now living in Waupaca at the advanced age of nearly ninety-eight years. His wife died in 1914, at the age of seventy-two. They had four children, Emma, James W. L. Grant and Frank, both James and L. Grant being now deceased.

James William Grant was reared and educated in Belmont Town-

ship and also attended night school at Minneapolis for two years. About 1883 he bought the farm of 160 acres where his son Harry Raymond now lives, and his ability enabled him to increase his holdings until he had about 480 acres, much of it cleared by his own efforts and he placed upon it the notable group of buildings which now furnishes convenience and all the facilities of good country living. He also established on a creek that runs through the land a feed mill, having machinery capable of developing about twenty-five horse power. James W. Grant was a republican, served as a member of the school board and on the jury, and he and his wife were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He died January 16, 1917, having survived his wife just one month, her death having occurred December 16, 1916. His wife was a daughter of Henry and Helen (Roads) Fenton, who came from New York State to Portage County in early days and settled in Belmont Township. Henry Fenton was a Union soldier and he and his wife spent their last days in the Soldiers Home. Their children were: Alice; Herbert; Gussie; Louisa, deceased; Mark; Maria; and George, who died in childhood.

James W. Grant and wife had six children: Chloe, who died at the age of seven years, Harry Raymond, Nellie Jane, Arthur William, Glenn Paul and Everett.

Harry Raymond Grant grew up on the old farm, attended the public schools, and the property which he now so capably manages comprises 240 acres. He has nearly all of it in active production and is a general farmer and stock raiser, specializing in Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Grant is a republican but has been too busy to think of offices.

May 8, 1918, he married Miss Laura Johnson. She was born in Belmont Township September 26, 1891, daughter of Peter L. and Anna Johnson. Her father was a native of Denmark and came to this country when a young man and married in Portage County. They settled in Belmont Township about 1888 but now live at Dayton in Waupaca County.

WILLIAM F. PARKER has been a resident of Portage County fifty years. The history of this section has unrolled before his eyes, and he has been by no means an uninterested participant in many of the changing scenes of development. Mr. Parker knew Portage County when it was one of the important centers of the lumber industry of Wisconsin. He did logging and river work for a number of years, and he knew personally most of the noted lumbermen and woodsmen of pioneer days. Mr. Parker is a self made man. He began to make his own living when hardly in his teens, and has well earned the fine home and the comfortable leisure he now enjoys by years of hardship and toil he went through in youth and mature manhood.

Mr. Parker was born in New Brunswick, Canada, September 25, 1845, son of Ralph Parker. His father was twice married. By his first wife he had children named George, Lydia Ann, Charlotte and Martha, all now deceased. His second wife and the mother of William F. Parker came to Stevens Point in the fall of 1869, a year after her son, and she lived here until her death in 1880, at the age of sixty years. She was the mother of eight children: Asenath, deceased; John T., deceased; Ralph, who when last heard from was living in New Brunswick; Robert W., deceased; William F.; Edward T., deceased; Daniel, deceased; Theodore L., of Bellingham, Washington;



*W L Parker*

Ralph Parker was a carpenter and blacksmith by trade. He was a member of the Baptist Church.

William F. Parker was only eight years old when his father died. Thus early he was thrown upon his own resources and at the age of nine years was working at hard physical labor, threshing grain with an old fashioned flail and splitting shingles by hand. When only fourteen he was working about the lumber camps of Canada, and at the age of sixteen was one of the regular workmen at wages of four dollars a month. These are only a few high lights of his early career that suggests an infinite amount of toil and hardship such as probably not even the men in the trenches in Europe today are called upon to endure. During all this time he had a very meager opportunity to attend school. In 1868, at the age of twenty-three, he came to Stevens Point and from that time forward for many years was in the woods during the winter and on the Wisconsin River logging in the summer seasons. He also learned the trade of painter, which he followed when not engaged in the lumber business, and that was the work which he followed actively for many years in Stevens Point before he retired.

Mr. Parker is a republican voter, but has never had any aspirations to hold office. He is a member of the Equitable Fraternal Union and he and his wife are Baptists.

In 1884 Mr. Parker married Mrs. Emma (Sitherwood) Whitrock. Her parents were James and Helen (Hansen) Sitherwood, her father a native of Canada and her mother of Norway. The Sitherwoods were a pioneer family of Portage County. Mrs. Parker's brother, Henry Sitherwood, passed away in July, 1918, while her other brother, William, is now deceased. Mr. Parker by her first marriage, to Charles Whitrock, had three daughters. Clara is the wife of Lewis Andrews, of Canada. Laura is Mrs. Corrigan, living at Cleveland, Ohio. Mabel is the wife of Dr. D. A. Taylor, a brother of W. W. Taylor, of Stevens Point. Doctor Taylor was for a number of years in the drug business at Stevens Point but is now living in California and he and his wife have one child, Duncan.

Mr. and Mrs. Parker have three children: Grace, the oldest, is Mrs. Edward Bassett and the mother of two children, Ronald and Ruth. The second daughter, Vera, is deceased. Veda Evelyn, the youngest, is living with her half sister, Mrs. Corrigan, in Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Parker resides at 731 Main Street, where he lives in one of the finest residences in Stevens Point. In this beautiful home he and his wife have all that makes life comfortable and enjoyable, and it is a home where much open hearted hospitality is dispensed every year.

**JOHN A. CATER.** Long years, health, prosperity and useful and honorable relations with the community have characterized the life of John A. Cater, a resident of Portage County for half a century, and now living retired at Stevens Point.

Mr. Cater was born in England September 15, 1838, and is now in the shadow of his eightieth birthday. He was reared and educated in his native land, and in 1858, at the age of twenty, came to America and located at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. For several years he turned his hand to any honest employment that offered, and finally responded

to the needs of his adopted country for soldiers in the Civil war. August 14, 1862, he enlisted in Company F of the Twenty-First Wisconsin Infantry, and was among the fresh troops sent down to halt the invasion of Kentucky under Bragg. Only a few weeks after his enlistment he participated in the bloody battle of Perryville, Kentucky, on October 8, 1862, and was there so severely wounded that after recovering he was given an honorable discharge. About five years later Mr. Cater came into Portage County and locating near Stevens Point took up work in the lumber woods. Later he bought land in Marathon County, Wisconsin, cleared it and made of it a model farm. A striking feature of this farm is a barn 120 feet long by 36 feet wide, costing \$4,000 when it was built, and regarded as one of the best as well as the largest barn in either Marathon or Portage County. Mr. Cater has always been a man of great vigor, and though he was forty-two years old when he went to the Marathon County land he cleared by his own efforts seventy-five acres. That farm is now owned by his son Ernest, who devotes it to farming and stock raising, having a herd of forty Holstein cattle and about twelve horses.

On May 30, 1906, Mr. Cater moved to Stevens Point and has since lived retired with home at 1116 Ellis Street. In politics he is independent, and when in the country served on the township board two terms and for about twenty-five years was active on the school board. He has always advocated the temperance cause and has always supported the prohibition candidates when he thought it advisable. He and his wife are members of the Church of Christ. He is also one of the honored members of the Grand Army Post at Stevens Point.

Mr. Cater married his first wife in 1862, Miss Helen Bessie, of Fond du Lac County. She died in July, 1876, the mother of four children. The oldest of these, Isadore, married first Mr. John Walsh and had four children, Kate, Dora, Gertrude and Willie, the last now deceased. She married for her second husband Herbert Warren, by whom she had five children, Robert, Herbert, Ethel, Russell and Clifford. James H., the second child of Mr. Cater by his first wife, married Mabel Warren, and their children are Madge, Vena, Ona, Byron, Lloyd, Zella, Melvie and Warren. John Lester, the third child, who died December 29, 1915, married Mary Scanlon, and their children are Mabel, John, Bertha, Edith, Alice and Lillian. Ambrose, the youngest of the children, married Lillie Dusell, and their three children, Gladys, Leona and Irene, are all married.

On November 18, 1879, Mr. Cater married for his present wife Miss Gertrude Sager. She was born at Stevens Point April 20, 1852, daughter of Archibald Douglas and Isabel (Gamble) Sager. Her father was born in Tioga County, New York, in 1824 and her mother in Pennsylvania in 1833. As young people they went out to Illinois, where they married, and in 1850 came to Portage County as pioneer settlers. Her father for a number of years was an expert steersman on the river during the heyday of the lumber industry. Afterwards he owned and operated a stone quarry on forty acres of land adjoining Stevens Point, but now included within the city limits. Mrs. Cater's mother died at Stevens Point in 1882 and her father on March 10, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Cater have three sons, Ernest L., Percy Forest and Howard Everett. Ernest has already been mentioned as owner of the old homestead in Marathon County, where he is a successful stock



farmer. He married Anna Simmons, and their seven children are named Allen, Lila, Florence, Neva, Lenn, Elva and Ernest John. The second son, Percy Forest, is unmarried, is a carpenter and pipe fitter by trade, and as a true journeyman workman has journeyed over many states. He is now employed in paper mills in British Columbia. Howard Everett, the third son, owns and occupies a farm in Madison County and in June, 1917, married Miss Nellie Colethurst. Mr. John A. Cater is a patriarch in years and also in family position. Besides his children and grandchildren already enumerated, he has twenty great-grandchildren living.

**LEWIS LARSON.** For forty-four years Lewis Larson, one of Portage County's leading farmers and breeders of high grade stock, has been a resident of Wisconsin. He was brought here from Norway by his parents when seven years old and has never had any inclination to leave this state or to seek a home outside the neighborhood in which his people settled permanently so long ago. He has become a representative citizen of Amherst Township, Portage County, and aside from his individual agricultural interests is identified with similar enterprises of larger scope.

Lewis Larson was born in Norway May 29, 1866, and is a son of Lars and Anna (Christianson) Larson, natives of Norway. Some of their kindred came to Wisconsin at a very early day and settled near Iola in Waupaca County, and prospered there. Because of this, when Lars Larson decided to seek a new home and wider opportunities in America, Iola, Wisconsin, was the place of settlement decided upon and in 1873 the family came to Waupaca County. For one year they resided near Iola and then moved to a farm in New Hope Township, in Portage County, and three years later to the present Severin Loberg farm in Amherst Township. Mr. Larson was well satisfied with farming conditions in Amherst Township and remained a renter of the above farm for five years, in the meanwhile, however, as a good business man, keeping himself informed concerning desirable land for sale, and finally bought forty acres situated a little south of the village of Amherst. The family remained on that farm for about four years and the mother of Lewis Larson died there. The father then moved into the village of Amherst and was there employed at different places for the next six years, keeping his son with him, in fact they have never been separated.

Lewis Larson attended school in his boyhood days but very early became his father's helper on the farm. He bought forty acres of land situated between Amherst and Amherst Junction and immediately moved on the place, his father accompanying him, and that continued to be the family home until in the spring of 1911 he purchased the old Judge Cate farm, near Amherst Junction, consisting of 204 acres. Mr. Larson immediately began to make improvements and has put up very substantial buildings. General farming is carried on here under the expert management of Edward Vogsland, Mr. Larson's son-in-law, who now owns one-half of this farm. A very important and profitable industry carried on here is the breeding of high grade Guernsey cattle and thoroughbred Poland China hogs, a large business being done. Both Mr. Larson and Mr. Vogsland are practical farmers and intelligent men and in the present increased

demand for agricultural products they are using the methods that they believe will bring still larger yields from their property.

Mr. Larson was married in 1889 to Miss Carrie Iverson, who was born in New Hope Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, and is a daughter of Simon Iverson. Mr. and Mrs. Larson have two children, Mabel and Lloyd. The former is the wife of Edward Voglsland, above mentioned. The latter is attending school at Amherst. Mr. Larson and family are active members of the Lutheran Church at Nelsonville. Mr. Larson's father is able to attend church services and also to take part in social intercourse, although he passed his ninety-fifth birthday on February 8, 1917. He enjoys exceptional good health despite his years and his mental faculties are also intact. He has many friends in Portage County.

Mr. Larson has always been credited with being a good citizen but he has never taken any very active part in politics and has never desired any political office. He has taken a great deal of interest in agricultural matters and in enterprises that further farm industries in this section, and is a member of the Guernsey Breeders' Association of Portage and Waupaca Counties, and has an interest in the Farmers' Potato Warehouse Company at Amherst.

FRANZ J. KREMBS, D. D. S., has all the enterprise and ability that has been characteristic of the Krembs family during its long residence in Portage County. He is a son of Alexander Krembs, Sr., elsewhere mentioned in this publication.

Doctor Krembs was born at Stevens Point October 18, 1886. He was well educated in parochial schools, the Stevens Point High School, and in 1908 graduated from the Northwestern Dental College at Chicago. He at once opened his office at Stevens Point, and has in later years found his time fully occupied with the heavy demands made upon his skill and recognized ability as a highly proficient dental surgeon.

Doctor Krembs is independent in casting his ballot and has never been an aspirant in any way for public favors. He has been well satisfied to perform his service to the community through his profession. Doctor Krembs married in 1910 Miss Irma Schulhof, of Superior, Wisconsin. He is a member of St. Stephen's Catholic Church, is affiliated with Stevens Point Lodge No. 641 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is a member of the local council of the Knights of Columbus.

JOSEPH WORZELLA. When intelligently and energetically applied, practical industry rarely fails of success; it serves to carry a man onward and upward, to bring out his individual character, and to act as a powerful stimulus to the efforts of others. The greatest results in life are frequently acquired by simple means and the exercise of the ordinary qualities of common sense and perseverance. It is along such lines that Joseph Worzella has won himself a place of independence and standing among the agriculturists of Portage County. During a long and active career he has wisely and vigorously applied practical industry to his work, and the beneficial result of such a course is shown in the fact that he is the owner of 420 acres of fertile and valuable land in Carson Township, and the possessor of his fel-

low-citizens' confidence to the extent that he has been the incumbent of several important township offices.

Joseph Worzella was born March 19, 1863, in Poland, a son of Michael and Anna (Rozella) Worzella. The family immigrated to the United States in 1865, settling in Portage County, where the father took up land in Sharon Township. After a few years there, however, he disposed of his interests and moved to Carson Township, where he bought a tract of 240 acres, and here developed a splendid farm. After an industrious and successful career he moved to Plover Township and took up another tract, which is now owned by his son, Casimir, and there his death occurred in the sixty-first year of his age. He was a member of Saint Bartomian Polish Catholic Church on Mill Creek, to which also belongs his widow, who survives him at about eighty years of age. There were eleven children in the family, of whom eight survive.

Joseph Worzella was reared to the pursuits of farming and as a youth was taught the lessons of thrift and industry, truth and honor. He attended the public and parochial schools, and early entered upon a career of his own when in 1883 he secured 160 acres of land in Carson Township from his father. When he had developed this to a state of high producing capacity he began adding to his land, and with each addition made improvements and increased his cultivation, so that the entire farm has kept pace with the advancement of agricultural methods. He now has 420 acres of land, on which there are buildings of substantial construction and attractive appearance, including a splendid barn 40 by 90 feet. In addition to carrying on general farming Mr. Worzella keeps pure-bred and graded Holstein cattle, his herd now consisting of about thirty-eight head. He is a democrat in his political views, and after serving two years as side supervisor was elected chairman of the board, an office which he has held for the past six years. With his family he belongs to the Polish Catholic Church.

Mr. Worzella was married January 26, 1884, to Miss Tina Macurat, who was born in Poland, and was a child when brought to Portage County by her parents, Albert and Agnes Macurat, farming people who are now both deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Worzella the following children have been born: George, who married Miss Frances Sobczak and has two children, Raymond and Andy; Joseph, Jr.; Martha, who married Frank Sobczak and has three children, Helen, Albert and Anna; and Rozina, Leo, Helen, Sophia, Henry, Sammie and Peter, all at home.

LEWIS GIBBS established his home in Portage County half a century ago and during his effective lifetime achieved one of the most remarkable business successes on record in the county. He gained large holdings of land, developed several large farms, and accumulated a fortune not only in material wealth but in the riches of community esteem. For all that he did and was he remained a plain and unassuming citizen to the end, and no family is better remembered for the kindness and hospitality which radiated from the home.

Lewis Gibbs was born at Villanova, Chautauqua County, New York, July 5, 1834, and died January 5, 1912. His parents, Israel and Charlotte (Wright) Gibbs, were farming people in Western New York, possessed very modest circumstances, and had a family

of eight sons and three daughters, Lewis being the seventh son and ninth child.

His education was acquired in the meager district schools of his day. He remained at home for several years after reaching his majority, his father having died and his services being needed by his mother and sisters. He first came to Wisconsin in 1855 and visited an older brother, William, in Racine. In 1858 he joined a party of twenty men and with wagons and teams crossed the western prairies and mountains to California. He was in the far West three years and returned to the States by way of Cape Horn, being sixty days on the voyage.

At Racine, Wisconsin, August 14, 1862, Lewis Gibbs married Miss Harriet Barrows. She was born in Macomb County, Michigan, August 7, 1844, daughter of Charles and Polly (Hatch) Barrows, natives of New York State. She was one of three sons and three daughters. In 1851 Charles Barrows took his family from Michigan to Racine County, Wisconsin, and he died there August 27, 1890, at the age of seventy-seven years, seven months, seven days, and was buried at Stevens Point. His wife was born February 24, 1812, and lived to be more than eighty years of age.

Lewis and Harriet Gibbs had six children: Gilbert, George, Frank, Nellie, Ray and Grace.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs began housekeeping on a farm he bought in Caledonia Township of Racine County, but eighteen months later moved to a farm in Leeds Township of Columbia County. In 1865 he came to the neighborhood of Portage County, with which his interests were so long usefully identified. His first land was acquired in section 31 of Stockton Township. The land was covered with a heavy growth of timber, and it required several years of hard labor to convert it into a farm. In 1886 he moved to a farm of 120 acres at Stockton Station. In the meantime and afterwards his possessions continued to increase and at one time he owned upwards of 1,000 acres. This estate was proof of his earnest industry and good management and the singular ability with which he directed every enterprise. He was one of the pioneer dealers and shippers of potatoes and other farm produce from Portage County.

In politics he was a republican, but cast his vote without seeking otherwise to influence local or national affairs. Mr. Gibbs for his splendid success always gave much credit to his family and their harmonious co-operation. When their children were young he and his wife faithfully and dutifully held up their burdens, but as their children grew older they took their share of responsibilities and lightened the burdens to the older people. It was the character of the home life as much as anything else that made the Gibbs family so noteworthy in Portage County.

RAY C. GIBBS, of Stockton Township, has made a gratifying success as a farmer and dairyman. But more than local interest attaches to his name because of what he has done and is doing as an experimenter and commercial grower of an exceptionally fine strain of seed potatoes. That is now perhaps the chief feature of his business on his farm of 160 acres.

For the past nine years Mr. Gibbs has been specializing in growing and handling the Peerless seed potato, which reached its present stage

of perfection on his land and as a result of careful experimentation, sorting and development, until it now represents one of the practically pure strains of northern grown potatoes. He has shipped these potatoes to many states both in small and carload lots. The Peerless has been on exhibition at local and state fairs, and even at the Land Show in Chicago. Mr. Gibbs for three years conducted experimental work with potatoes under the direction of the United States Department of Agriculture and the personal supervision of Professor William Stuart.

Mr. Gibbs was born in Stockton Township, half a mile from where he now resides, on June 25, 1879. He is a son of Lewis and Harriet (Barrows) Gibbs. When he was eight years old his parents left the old homestead and moved to the farm where Ray now lives. From this farm he attended the public schools of the locality and after his father's death acquired the estate, which he has subsequently improved in many ways, building his present residence in 1912. As a dairyman he keeps a good herd of native cattle. Mr. Gibbs is a republican but has been too busy to look after the cares of office. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and he and his wife are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

November 6, 1906, he married Miss Agnes Ambrose, who was born in Buena Vista Township of this county September 6, 1883. Her parents were John and Barbara (Walter) Ambrose, the former born in Belgium in 1851 and the latter in Germany in 1854. Her father was brought to Stevens Point in 1853 by his parents, Bartholomew and Anna Ambrose. Her mother came with her parents to Stevens Point in 1868. Mrs. Gibbs is one of seven children, named John, Henry, Anna, Marie, Agnes, Barbara, who died in infancy, and Fred. Mrs. Gibbs' parents were members of the Catholic Church, and she was reared in the same faith. She was educated in the public schools and after graduating from the State Normal at Stevens Point in 1901 she was a successful teacher for five years prior to her marriage.

FRANK ZOLANDEK, head of the F. Zolandek Company, shoe merchants at Stevens Point, has spent nearly all his life in Portage County, and has reached a place of independent success entirely through his own exertions and as a result of tried and efficient experience.

Mr. Zolandek was born in German Poland October 6, 1883, son of Nicholas and Catherine (Landowski) Zolandek. His father was born in 1857 and his mother in 1861. In 1885, when Frank was not yet two years old, the little family started for America to taste of its opportunities and experiences. Arriving at Stevens Point, the father went to work for the Wisconsin Central Railroad. He was with this railroad for about twenty years, and later was employed by the Coye Furniture Manufacturing Company. He passed away May 6, 1918, at Stevens Point. The family are Catholics. There are four sons, all living, named Frank, Theodore, Julian and John.

Frank Zolandek had a good education as preparation for the serious responsibilities of life. He attended the parochial schools and finished with two years in the State Normal School at Stevens Point. When only sixteen years old he began getting acquainted with business in a clerical capacity and during the next ten years he made use of every opportunity that came to him and carefully husbanded his modest

savings with a view to setting up in business for himself. In February, 1910, he opened a stock of shoes and footwear and saw the business grow so rapidly that four years later it was incorporated as the F. Zolandeck Company. This fine store is at 113 North Second Street.

Mr. Zolandeck is independent in politics. In 1903 he married Miss Frances Czapplewski, of Stevens Point. Their four daughters are Helen, Irene, Clara and Agnes.

P. N. PETERSON. One of the prominent and representative men of Portage County is P. N. Peterson, who came to Amherst in its village days and has been particularly interested in the development of its worthy enterprises ever since. Mr. Peterson is well known in the state, having served in the State Legislature, and largely through his public spirit and his business acumen, Portage County has been developed in many directions.

P. N. Peterson was born in Norway, May 1, 1850. His parents were Captain T. and Anna Maria (Mortenson) Peterson. Captain Peterson was a sea-going man and before coming to America commanded his own vessel on the high seas. In 1858, with his wife and two sons, he came to the United States, settling by preference in the Great Lakes region, and for a number of years afterward sailed from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as commander of a lake vessel. After the death of his wife he retired from the water and in 1870 moved to Waupaca County and purchased a farm in Iola Township and occupied the same until his death. Both of his sons survive: P. N. and Lawrence, the latter still residing on the old home farm in Iola Township, Waupaca County.

P. N. Peterson was eight years old when Milwaukee became the family home. He attended the public schools there and also the German-English Academy, which was a fine school in its day, and afterward was a sailor on his father's vessel on the lakes and under other captains during many summer seasons, in the winter time adding to his accumulating knowledge of business by serving as a clerk in general stores.

In the fall of 1873 Mr. Peterson came to Amherst. For two years he was in the employ of A. M. Nelson, the leading merchant of Amherst at that time, and then embarked in the mercantile business for himself and for the next ten years conducted a successful business along general lines. In the meanwhile Mr. Peterson had become a political force here, and even before the village was incorporated he was elected town treasurer and served fifteen years. His fellow citizens early recognizing his trustworthy character, their continued appreciation was shown through election and subsequent re-elections of Mr. Peterson to the State Legislature.

Mr. Peterson, having previously sold his mercantile enterprise, engaged once more in business as a dealer in coal and farm products, making a specialty of potatoes. Although he is entirely alone in this business, he has wide trade interests and is manager and secretary of the Wisconsin Potato Shippers' Association, an exceedingly important organization at the present time when there is such national need of farm products.

Mr. Peterson was married in 1874 to Miss Annis Moyer, who was born at Amherst and is a daughter of Monroe and Zephia Moyer. The father of Mrs. Peterson was a soldier in the Civil war, who gave

his life for his country, falling at Petersburg, Virginia, and filling an unmarked grave. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have three children, one daughter and two sons: Esther Annabel, who is the wife of J. C. Webster, of Amherst; and John P. and Raymond L., both residents of Amherst. Mr. Peterson and his family are members of the Episcopal Church.

In politics Mr. Peterson has always been a republican, loyal to his party but liberal in his views on public questions. During his period in the Legislature he was ever a champion of movements of progress and reform, and in local affairs has shown his interest and wisdom in many ways. He has always been a friend of public education, has favored legislation in this direction, and at present is serving as treasurer of the Amherst school district. He is one of the older members of the Odd Fellows Lodge at Amherst and belongs also to the Modern Woodmen of America.

**WILLIAM E. ATWELL.** A young Portage County attorney with a growing sphere of activity and success in the law, William E. Atwell represents one of the oldest and most honored family names of the county and his career has been closely followed by many interested friends and relatives from early boyhood up.

He was born in Sharon Township of Portage County November 12, 1883, son of Vernon P. Atwell, concerning whom more is said in following paragraphs. William E. Atwell attended district schools in Price County and afterwards the State Normal School at Stevens Point. For his law he entered the University of Wisconsin and graduated LL. B. in 1909. A day or so after being granted his diploma he was back in Stevens Point and making arrangements to open up his office and secure his first clients as an attorney. He has always practiced alone, and much important business has been entrusted to his capable handling. Besides his law practice he is interested in the N. Boyington Company, real estate, and is a member of the firm The Portage County Loan & Abstract Company.

June 30, 1909, William E. Atwell married Miss Ida Wells, of Stevens Point, daughter of E. E. Wells. They have three children: William E., Jr., Georgiana and Charlotte May. Mr. and Mrs. Atwell are members of the Episcopal Church. He is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Rotary Club and the Civic and Commercial Club. During the present war he has also served as a member of the Local Exemption Board for Portage County.

Vernon Philipps Atwell, father of the Stevens Point attorney, was born in New York State September 1, 1858. His father, William Atwell, had come out to Portage County, Wisconsin, in the year 1846, accompanying Dr. John Philipps, one of the most distinguished pioneers of this section of the state. However, William Atwell remained here only about two years, and then returned to New York State, where he was a farmer during his long and successful life. He was a single man when he came to Wisconsin. Vernon P. Atwell was one of a family of eight sons and one daughter. He was well educated in New York State, finishing at Rutgers College, and in 1876 came to Stevens Point, Wisconsin, where for two years he taught school. After that he was a factor in the lumber business until 1905, under the name Boyington & Atwell. He was general manager of the company's extensive interests in this line. In 1905 he bought the

abstract business of R. H. Butterfield & Company and has since been primarily responsible for the successful conduct of this business, now known as The Portage County Loan & Abstract Company.

July 7, 1880, Vernon P. Atwell married Miss Mae Boyington, who was born in Waushara County, Wisconsin, daughter of Nathaniel and Annis Boyington. The Boyingtons were settlers in Portage County in 1861, but had become identified with Wisconsin when it was still a territory, in the early '40s. Nathaniel Boyington was a prominent lumberman for many years and had a mill in Portage County.

Vernon P. Atwell and wife had two children: George B. and William E. Mrs. Atwell is a member of the Episcopal Church. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America, and for fifteen years served as an alderman of Stevens Point.

CHESTER L. TAYLOR, a prosperous farmer of Belmont Township, is member of a family that has been identified with this section of Portage County for over sixty years. The Taylors were a rather numerous family, and Mr. Taylor's father and some four or five of his brothers and sisters identified themselves with Portage County about 1856. The name is well spoken of and various members of the family have achieved all those things associated with good and honorable citizenship in this locality.

It was in Belmont Township that Chester L. Taylor was born June 22, 1875. He is a son of Luman and Lydia (Wolf) Taylor. His father was born in New York in 1828, a son of Riley Taylor, and he married in the East and brought his first wife to Belmont Township in 1856. By his first marriage he had two children: William, now living in New York State; and Cora, wife of Solon Ingersol, of New York State. Luman Taylor married Lydia Wolf, a native of Waushara County, Wisconsin, but they spent most of their years in Belmont Township. Luman Taylor died in 1900, and his widow is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Gertrude Phillips, at Green Bay, Wisconsin. Luman Taylor and his second wife had three children: Chester L., Gertrude, born in 1876, and Lossie, born in 1882. Mr. Taylor began voting as a republican but later was an ardent prohibitionist. For a number of years he held the office of township clerk in Belmont Township. His wife is a devout worshiper in the Methodist faith.

Chester L. Taylor grew up on the farm in Belmont Township, had a public school education, and is proprietor of a model farm of 100 acres and also owns forty acres of timber land in another section of Belmont Township. He does general farming and has good stock, including Holstein cattle.

Mr. Taylor is a republican voter and is now serving his ninth consecutive year as clerk of the school district. He is affiliated with Almond Lodge of Masons, with the Knights of Maccabees at Blaine, and he and his wife are identified with all the social activities of their community.

March 12, 1900, he married Miss Lena Hess. She was born at Little Wolf in Waupaca County May 9, 1879, daughter of Christian F. and Mary (Wahl) Hess. Her parents settled in Waupaca County in 1875, and her father died there March 15, 1912, at the age of seventy-two. Mrs. Hess is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Taylor,





*Howard Allen*

aged sixty-one. In the Hess family were six children: Clara Louisa, deceased, Anna, Lena, Minnie, Henry and Iva. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have one child, Ferna Marie, born January 18, 1902, now in the senior class of the Almond High School.

T. OLSEN. As a coal and wood merchant T. Olsen has been in business at Stevens Point for a long period of years, and is a business man whose standing is an unimpeachable record of honest and straightforward dealing and whose career has meant much to the welfare of the community.

Mr. Olsen was born in Christiana, Norway, March 17, 1860, a son of Ole and Helena Olsen. His father died in Norway in 1874, when his son was fourteen years old. The mother, who came to Portage County in 1892, died here a few years later, in 1902. T. Olsen, only child of his parents, was educated in his native land and was confirmed after finishing the common schools. Coming to America he located in Wisconsin, at Madison, in 1880 and in the fall of that year came to Stevens Point. However, he did not permanently locate here until the fall of 1881. He worked in the coal and wood business for the Western Lumber Company and later for the North Side Lumber Company, and for many years has been handling as a merchant all the wood produced by the John Week Lumber Company. Mr. Olsen bought a tract of land of 320 acres, selling eighty acres of it, but still has 240 acres in the Township of Eau Pleine. About fifteen years ago he began handling coal, and was one of the first men to haul coal for the Copps Coal Company. Mr. Olsen owns a good home at 401 Water Street in Stevens Point.

He is a republican voter but has had no aspiration for office. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran Church. On March 21, 1885, he married Gundella Halversen. She was born in Norway October 15, 1858, and on coming to Stevens Point went to live in the Haakinson homestead at 502 Franklin Street. Mr. Olsen happened to be boarding in the same home and thus they met and began the romance of their lives. Later Mr. Olsen bought that old place where he and his wife had formed their acquaintance at 502 Franklin Street and it is now the home of their son Clarence Roy. The family lived there for many years and all the children were born there, and about 1910 Mr. Olsen moved to his present home on Water Street.

The children are: Mabel Helena, Clarence Roy and Ralph Christian, twins, Henry Olaf, Norman Alvin. The daughter Mabel was well educated, a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and the State Normal School, spent two summers in the University of Chicago and was a popular teacher for several years. In 1914 she married Thomas Robie Sewall, of St. Paul, Minnesota. His father, Joseph Sewall, had the distinction of building the second house at St. Anthony Park in St. Paul, Minnesota. This St. Paul pioneer died December 25, 1917, at the venerable age of ninety-four. Thomas R. Sewall and wife came to Stevens Point from Crookston, Minnesota, August 15, 1917, and has since lived in Stevens Point, where Mr. Sewall is now assisting Mr. Olsen in business. While in Minnesota he was director of agriculture and engineering in the Northwest School of Agriculture at the University of Minnesota. Mr. Olsen's son Clarence R. is married and has two children, Edmund and Evelyn. The son Ralph married Martha Steuck. Henry Olaf,

a farmer in Eau Pleine Township, married Clara Greek and has children named Thornwald and Hazel.

**THEO H. JOHNSON.** In his development from a worker in a logging camp to the owner of large financial interests, Theo H. Johnson has practically relied upon his own resources for the attainment of his goal. His opportunities have been no greater than those of other men, and his advantages have been of an ordinary nature, but it has been his happy fortune to have been possessed with keen foresight and inherent ability, and to have been able to recognize his chances and to make the most of them. Today this representative citizen of Nelsonville is the repository for trusted interests as president of the Bank of Nelsonville, is interested in several other financial institutions, and occupies a leading position in the business world of his community as the owner of a garage and the district agent for a popular automobile.

Theo H. Johnson was born on his father's old home farm in New Hope Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, in 1865, being a son of Hans and Matilda (Stianson) Johnson. His father was an early settler of Portage County, whence he came a number of years before the outbreak of the Civil war, and commenced his career in this locality as a pilot on the river when the lumber was floated down the streams of Wisconsin. He possessed sound ability in a business way and was able to discern the benefits to be secured from the ownership of land and timber, of both of which he secured a share by wisely investing his earnings, this being followed by the erection of several sawmills where his timber was sawed into lumber for the market. As his holdings grew he became interested in the banking business, to which he gave more and more of his attention until he was the owner of three institutions, one being at Fremont, one at Ogdensburg and one at Nelsonville. After the death of his wife he settled permanently at Nelsonville, where he made his home with his daughter and where his death occurred. Mr. Johnson was a man of sturdy qualities, sound, reliable and the soul of integrity, who had the full confidence of his associates and of all with whom he had transactions. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Julius, a resident of Iola, Waupaca County, Wisconsin; Nels, who is cashier of the Bank of Fremont; Theo H., of this notice; Ludwig H., who is cashier of the Bank of Nelsonville; Hans, cashier of the Bank of Ogdensburg; Mrs. Hannah Olson, whose husband is engaged in agricultural operations in Portage County; and Minnie, who is a widow living in Nelsonville.

Theo H. Johnson received his education in the district schools, and as a youth worked with his father at farming and as a logger. He remained with the elder man as an associate in a number of his enterprises until one year after his marriage, but in 1891 went to Marshfield, Wisconsin, where he remained for two years as an employee in a sawmill. In 1893 he came to Nelsonville, where he purchased an interest in a general merchandise business, which took the name of Loberg & Johnson, and with which he continued to be identified for twenty years, finally disposing of his interests therein in 1913. This concern is still in existence, but now bears the style of N. J. Loberg & Company. In 1913, realizing the trend of the times and the opportunities offered for success in the automobile field, Mr. Johnson began

selling Ford cars, a line in which he was almost immediately successful. He secured the district agency for this region, and during the four years that he has been engaged in this line has sold to many farmers and business men in this locality, bankers and professional men, and has established an excellent record for salesmanship. In 1917 he invested still more capital in this business, when he built a modern garage, 32 by 100 feet, the first structure of its kind so far at Nelsonville and the only one at this point. He is enjoying an excellent and constantly growing business.

At the time of his father's death Mr. Johnson became president of the Bank of Nelsonville and continues to hold that position. He has been president of the Fremont State Bank since 1910, in which year he and his brother, Nels H. Johnson, who is cashier of the institution, organized it. Likewise Mr. Johnson is interested in the Ogdensburg State Bank. He is a man of marked and acknowledged financial ability and his management of the institutions' affairs has been wise, conservative and beneficial to the interests of the depositors. While not a man to seek preferment of a public nature, he is nevertheless interested in civic affairs, and assumes a good citizen's responsibilities in matters of importance to the community and the advancement of the general welfare. With his family he belongs to the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Johnson was married August 21, 1890, to Miss Anna Loberg, who was born in Amherst Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, daughter of Johan N. Loberg, a sketch of whose career will be found on another page of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have had no children of their own, but have an adopted daughter, Alma.

**GEORGE J. FLUGAUR.** The value of a useful vocation, of making one's energy count toward one thing, of forging steadily ahead regardless of obstacles, has found emphatic expression in the career of George J. Flugaur, of Stevens Point. For more than ten years he has been in the service of the Wisconsin Central Railroad, with an engineer's run since 1912, and there is no more popular, efficient or trusted man in the employ of the line. Mr. Flugaur is a Stevens Point man by nativity, having been born at this place April 9, 1887, a son of Anton and Mary (Grudl) Flugaur, natives of Saint Peter, Austria.

Anton Flugaur was born in 1860 and was a young man of twenty years when he immigrated to the United States, coming direct to Stevens Point, where he secured employment at his trade of millwright and where he has resided ever since, being at this time in the employ of the Vetter Manufacturing Company. He was married here to Mary Grudl, who was born in 1869 and came to America as a child, and who died June 16, 1895, in the faith of the German Catholic Church, of which her husband is a member. They were the parents of four children: George J., of this notice; Mary, who is deceased; Anton E.; and John Henry.

George J. Flugaur was reared at Stevens Point, where he secured his education in the parochial schools of the German Catholic Church. When his schooling was completed he became an employe of the Vetter Manufacturing Company, where he remained several years, but the work did not prove congenial and he gave up his position to go to Superior, Wisconsin, where for one year he was in the employ of the Great Northern Railroad, being for three months in the round-

house and for nine months a fireman. In 1907 he returned to Stevens Point and applied for a position in the service of the Wisconsin Central Railroad, being duly accepted as a fireman. More than five years of work in this capacity followed, and December 10, 1912, he was promoted to the position of engineer, which he still occupies. Mr. Flugaur is one of the most careful men pulling a throttle on this road, and one who has deservedly won the confidence of his superiors. He has made a careful study of his vocation, understands his steel steeds in their every particular and can be depended upon to do the right thing in any emergency. He is a popular and loyal member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. In political affairs he takes an independent stand, and the very nature of his vocation precludes the idea of his taking any active part in politics as an aspirant for public position. Reared in the faith of the German Catholic Church, he is still a member of that denomination, and belongs to the Catholic Knights and Saint Joseph's Benevolent Society. With his wife and family he resides at the old Theiler homestead, No. 325 Fremont Street.

Mr. Flugaur was married January 21, 1913, to Miss Elizabeth Theiler, who was born at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, July 19, 1889, a daughter of John and Mary Magdaline (Dulmer) Theiler, natives of Saint Peter, Austria. Mrs. Flugaur's parents were married in their native land in 1871 and in the following year immigrated to the United States, settling in October of that year at Stevens Point, where Mr. Theiler was a boilermaker for the Wisconsin Central Railroad. He died in this city May 18, 1903, aged fifty-seven years, while Mrs. Theiler still survives at the age of seventy-two years. Mr. Theiler was a faithful member of the German Catholic Church and one of the founders of Saint Joseph's Church of that denomination, to which his widow belongs. Mr. and Mrs. Theiler had four children: John and Magdaline, who were twins and are deceased; John, also deceased; and Elizabeth, the wife of Mr. Flugaur. Mr. and Mrs. Flugaur have had four children: William and Robert, who are deceased; and Richard John and Mary Magdaline, who reside with their parents.

CARL HENKE is a Portage County citizen who has been prospered as a farmer, has been a good business man, and has shown an active public spirit in all his relations with the community. Mr. Henke owns one of the well developed and valuable farms of New Hope Township.

He was born in Germany October 6, 1855, and came to America about the time he reached his majority. His parents, William and Fredericka (Kroning) Henke, brought their family to America in 1874. They first located in Siegel Township of Wood County, Wisconsin, where the father died about 1878. Some years later the widowed mother joined her son Carl in Portage County and spent her last years here. There were three sons in the family, Fred, John and Carl. Fred is now a resident of Siegel Township, Wood County. John, deceased, saw active service in the Franco-Prussian war.

Carl Henke acquired all his educational advantages in his native land, and was fully prepared to earn his own way after coming to America with his parents. For about three years he worked for others in Wood County, and then moved to Stevens Point, where he spent another three years, chiefly as an employe of the local brewery. After his marriage Mr. Henke moved to his present farm in New

Hope Township. Here his industry and good management have enabled him to accumulate 213 acres, much of which has been cleared under his own direction, and all the substantial group of buildings stand as evidence of his prosperity. One important source of his success has been cattle raising, and for a number of years he has handled the full blooded Holsteins. Mr. Henke helped organize and was a member of the first board of directors of the Nelsonville Creamery. He has now sold out his farming interests to his sons, but still keeps his residence on the old farm.

In 1880 Mr. Henke married Miss Anna Stoltenberg. She was born at Nelsonville, and is a member of the well known Stoltenberg family elsewhere referred to in this publication. Mr. and Mrs. Henke have a sturdy family of seven children, all living, named in order of birth Anna, William, Emma, Albert, Fred, Clara and Lewis. The youngest son, Lewis, is now a soldier in the National Army. The family are all Lutherans.

FRANK B. DENT is looked upon as one of the chief citizens of Belmont Township, where for many years he has been carrying forward a prosperous business as a farmer and stock raiser, and where he has been honored with the responsibilities of the office of township chairman, a position he still holds.

Mr. Dent has spent nearly all his life in Wisconsin but was born in Wasioja in Dodge County, Minnesota, April 29, 1867. His parents were John B. and Ellen (Hyatt) Dent. His father was born in New York State April 19, 1841, and his mother in Walworth County, Wisconsin, June 12, 1843. The Hyatts were in Wisconsin in territorial times. The maternal grandfather, William H. Hyatt, and his wife, Ferville (Black) Hyatt, came out of Western New York and settled in Walworth County when it was on the frontier. They acquired government land there, later moved to Waukau, which was their home for many years, still later went to Winneconne in Winnebago County, and William Hyatt spent his last years at Medford, Wisconsin, where he died in 1882. His widow passed away in Tama County, Iowa, in 1908, when about about eighty-seven years of age.

John B. Dent was reared and educated in New York State and when about sixteen came west to Waukau, Wisconsin. He was a student in Ripon College and when the war broke out he enlisted in the Fifty-Ninth Illinois Infantry and saw three years and three months of active service. He made a splendid record as a soldier and came out with the rank of first lieutenant. After the war he took up farming, and after his marriage at Waukau moved to Dodge County, Minnesota. After three years in what was then the extreme Northwest he returned to Wisconsin and lived for eight years at Winneconne and then moved to Marshfield. He was accidentally killed while hunting on November 24, 1883. His widow afterwards married M. L. Cross and is now living at St. Charles, Minnesota. John B. Dent was a very ardent democrat and took part in many strenuous campaigns in the state. He and his wife had four children, Frank B., William H., Ethel M., now deceased, Archie B.

Frank B. Dent was only twelve years old when his parents moved to Marshfield, Wisconsin, and four years later his father died. As the oldest of the children the care and support of the family devolved upon him, and he left school to take up regular work. For about

twelve years he was chiefly active in logging districts, developed as a logging contractor, and had his part in clearing away some of the important lumber districts in the state. In 1896 Mr. Dent came to Portage County and bought 120 acres of land in Belmont Township. His present farm comprises 160 acres. He did the pioneer work of clearing up his land, and has had the satisfaction of seeing a portion of the wilderness develop into broad and productive fields. He has likewise invested much effort and money in buildings, and has also planted a large orchard. For about fifteen years he has made a specialty of hogs and cattle, and has a herd of Guernsey cattle headed by a thoroughbred bull, and also pure bred Berkshire swine.

The success he has made in his private affairs naturally attracted the attention of his fellow citizens to his ability and has brought him a number of offices of trust. He served about five years as treasurer of Belmont Township, and for the past four years has been chairman of the board. Under his official administration all the state roads in Belmont Township and around Almond have been constructed. He is a democrat.

In 1890 Mr. Dent married Miss Ernestine Watson, of Marshfield. Her parents were Lyman and Emily (Twilliger) Watson. Her father was a head sawyer in the lumber mills and traveled extensively all over the timber districts. He is now living in the Wisconsin Soldiers' Home, having a record as a soldier of the Civil war. Mrs. Dent's mother died about 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Dent have two sons, Glenn and Dale. Glenn, who was born May 6, 1892, was educated in the Belmont Township schools and the Oshkosh Business College and is now a practical and progressive young farmer and stock raiser at Blaine in Belmont Township. He has about eighty acres of land and handles Guernsey cattle and is planning to specialize in this stock with only thoroughbreds. He married Elsie Rogers, of Dayton, Waupaca County, Wisconsin. Their two children are Philip and Harold. The son Dale, born November 6, 1896, was educated in the public schools and Oshkosh Business College, and married Zada Lewis, of Dayton, Waupaca County.

**FRANK G. WEBB.** A railroad man of some forty years experience. Frank G. Webb is today the oldest conductor in service with the Soo line, having begun with the old Wisconsin Central many years ago and prior to that was with the Milwaukee system. Mr. Webb resides at Stevens Point, and is widely known and prominent as a citizen of Portage County.

He was born in Dodge County, Wisconsin, January 28, 1858, and belongs to a family of Wisconsin pioneers, though his parents subsequently left the state to live in Michigan. He is a son of Edmond K. and Permelia (Adsit) Webb. His father was born in Jefferson County, New York, March 6, 1831, and his mother in the same county January 25, 1829. They were married at Webster, New York, December 28, 1853, and they lived to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary. In 1854, soon after their marriage, they came to the wilds of Central Wisconsin, locating in Dodge County, where they entered a claim and cleared it up and began the preliminary improvement of a homestead. In 1862 Edmond K. Webb enlisted as a Union soldier in Company E of the Twenty-Ninth Wisconsin Infantry. He was in the army three years and made a good record as a defender

of the flag. In 1868 he left Wisconsin and bought a farm in Jackson County, Michigan, and was identified with its management and cultivation until 1899, when he retired and moved to the village of Leona, Michigan. There he spent his last years and died in 1907. The mother passed away February 14, 1917. Their seven children were: William B., Frank G., Charles E., Hattie B., Emma, Ella and Eva. All are still living except Charles and Hattie. The father of these children voted as a republican and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Frank G. Webb was ten years old when his parents left Wisconsin and moved to Michigan, and he grew up on their farm in that state. He attended the public schools of Jackson County and in 1878, at the age of twenty, returned to Wisconsin, locating at Milwaukee, where he took service with the Milwaukee road as brakeman. In 1889 he transferred his services to the Wisconsin Central, locating at Waukesha, and since 1897 his home and headquarters have been chiefly at Stevens Point, though for some years he lived in Milwaukee and returned permanently to Portage County in 1914. He bought his present substantial home at 817 Clark Avenue in Stevens Point in 1913. Mr. Webb has been continuously a railway conductor for thirty-seven years, and has been a member of the Order of Railway Conductors since 1883. He is also affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Foresters, is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and in matters of politics acts independently.

In 1881 he married May V. Noyes, of Winona, Minnesota. Two children were born to them: Eva M. and Earl, the latter dying at the age of three. Eva was educated in the public schools of Waukesha and Stevens Point, graduated from high school at Fond du Lac and subsequently took a course in bookkeeping and shorthand.

WILLIAM HAZEN HOWE has spent his life since childhood in Portage County and owns one of the many excellent farms found in Plover Township. His business is an important contribution to the great volume of Portage County's productions as a dairy center. While he never attended a scientific school of agriculture, Mr. Howe has made a thorough study of agricultural methods and in a successful practical fashion has adapted himself to his environment and made every year's result a lesson for the next following.

His own experience and work have been the means by which he has supported himself and gained a competence and good position since early boyhood. He was born in the State of Michigan, across the lake from Milwaukee, June 17, 1870. His father is David H. Howe, whose career is reviewed on other pages of this publication. William H. Howe grew up in Wisconsin and had very little opportunity to attend school. At the age of nine he was working in the woods, and when at the age of eleven he came to Stevens Point he already possessed the ability to cut a cord of wood in a single day. Nearly all his early experiences were associated with the lumber woods. At the age of fourteen he began doing for himself, and since that time most of his work has been as a farmer. As a farm hand he worked for John Altenburg one year, also on the farm of Moses Perrean for Fred Huntley in Buena Vista Township, for Charles Echols, and after this varied experience he rented land at Keene in Buena Vista



Township. It was in 1902 that Mr. Howe was able to acquire his first land, when he bought forty acres in Plover Township. In 1906 he bought the John Gillman place of sixty acres, where he now lives. He had put up the buildings on his first land, but many of his improvements were carried away by a cyclone. On his home farm he has developed many buildings and general conveniences and facilities for the successful handling of his dairy and farm. Mr. Howe runs a dairy of twenty-five head of thoroughbred Jersey cattle. Besides his own land he rents enough to furnish employment for all his time and energies and equipment. Politically Mr. Howe is a republican but never had any aspirations for office holding.

In 1895 he married Miss Anna Altenburg. Mrs. Howe was born in Plover Township May 16, 1877, daughter of Washington Altenburg. Her father was an early settler of Portage County but in 1849 left this county to make a trip to the California gold fields. After his return to Portage County he married Anna Edwards, and then settled in Plover Township, where he lived until his death in 1917, at the extreme age of ninety-eight years. His wife died in 1894, at the age of fifty-seven. The Altenburg children were: Edward, Harvey, Kate and Anna.

Mr. and Mrs. Howe have had five children, Bernice, Maud, Ruth, who died at the age of seven years, Lloyd and Dorothy. The two older daughters have completed their education in the public schools.

GEORGE W. AMEIGH has put himself into important and influential relationship with Portage County in several different ways. He has been an official of Pine Grove Township at different times and is present township chairman. He has also helped raise the status of Portage County as a potato growing district, and is one of the most successful potato planters in the county, his crop helping to swell the volume of many thousands of bushels which every year are marketed through Bancroft.

Mr. Ameigh has been a resident of Portage County nearly all his life but was born in Marshall County, Indiana, in 1876, a son of Richmond J. and Sarah Ellen (Lansdrum) Ameigh. His father was a native of New York State and his mother of North Carolina. In March, 1881, the family moved from Indiana to Portage County, Wisconsin, locating at Bancroft, where the parents had their home many years, but now reside at Plainfield. Richmond J. Ameigh put in a great many years as an engineer in saw mill plants, but is now enjoying a well deserved retirement. He and his wife had seven children: George W., Leota, Lasana, Minnie May, William Harvey, Walter Edward and Harley. Harley is now in the American Army, with Company L of the Fifth Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry.

George W. Ameigh was educated in the common schools of Portage County, and as a youth took up farming, which he has prosecuted continuously and with growing success, as a result of experience, in Pine Grove Township for over twenty years. He has been on his present farm of eighty acres for eighteen years, and has made most of the improvements in the way of buildings and other changes and modifications that add to the value and convenience of the farm. His biggest crop for years has been potatoes and the people of Portage County look upon Mr. Ameigh as one of the real authorities on potato culture.

Mr. Ameigh was first elected township chairman of Pine Grove in 1910 and was again elected to a similar honor in the spring of 1917. He has served as supervisor four different terms. He is a member of the Baptist Church and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. In the spring of 1898 Mr. Ameigh married Carrie Wilson. Mrs. Ameigh was born in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, daughter of Samuel Wilson.

CHARLES A. PETERSON during his youth and early manhood had the arduous training and experience of the lumber woods and mills of Wisconsin, but for the past thirty years has found his chief business and profit as a practical farmer in Amherst Township. He owns a fine farm, has his land well cultivated, does considerable dairying, and while official honors have not been in his line or a matter of inclination he has exercised that influence which proceeds from an industrious and prospering citizen and means something to the growth and development of the community.

Mr. Peterson, a brother of A. A. Peterson, elsewhere mentioned in this publication, was born in Norway in the fall of 1854 and was brought when an infant to America in the spring of 1856. His parents located in Amherst Township on land now owned by their son A. A. Peterson. Here Charles grew to manhood, attended some of the early schools at Nelsonville, and put his sturdy physical strength to practical use in the woods and on the rivers as a lumberman and logger. He worked at that for several years and for four years after his marriage was employed in the saw mills and lumber factories at Merrill, Wisconsin.

In 1886 he came to the farm which is his present home. It comprises 120 acres, and its improvements are sufficient testimony to the industry and earnest work put forth by Mr. Peterson. He had to clear away the brush and woods before any of the land could be cultivated, and all the present buildings were erected under his ownership. As a dairyman Mr. Peterson handles a good grade of Guernsey cows. He is also interested in the creamery at Nelsonville and with his family worships in the Nelsonville Lutheran Church.

In 1881 Mr. Peterson married Miss Nina Waller. She was born on the old Waller farm in New Hope Township. Her father, Ole H. Waller, was a native of Norway, and settled in New Hope Township about 1862, coming here from the vicinity of Milwaukee. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have four living children: Mabel, now Mrs. John Madson, of Harrison Township, Waupaca County, and Almer O., Edna and Irwin, all of whom still remain in the home circle.

HALBERT J. KROGWOLD. An appreciable number of the agriculturists who have representative properties in Portage County and have assisted in maintaining farming standards and the prestige of their part of the state have been born on the farms which they now occupy and have spent their lives thereon. For this reason they are thoroughly familiar with conditions existing and are able to carry on their operations much more intelligently than can the newcomer. Among those who have passed their entire lives on the farms which they now occupy, one of the residents of New Hope Township who is well and favorably known is Halbert J. Krogwold, a skilled agriculturist, breeder of cattle and progressive citizen.

Mr. Krogwold was born July 4, 1867, in New Hope Township, Portage County, and is a son of Johanas and Rhode (Berdy) Krogwold. His parents, natives of Norway, were industrious and hard-working people, but could not make much advancement in their native land, and thus it was during the early '50s that they immigrated to the United States and settled at once in New Hope Township. The father was not possessed of any capital and for the first three years was compelled to work out and rent land, but at the end of that time bought eighty acres of land from the United States Government, this being located in the woods and without improvements of any kind. After clearing the first purchase Mr. Krogwold secured forty additional acres, which he also cleared and improved, and on which he and his wife continued to pass the remainder of their lives. As has been noted, they were hard-working people, and a couple who endeavored to rear their children along paths of rectitude and to bring them up to be industrious and honorable men and women. Of their nine children, the first four, Martin, Ole, Randia and Mathia, died in infancy, while those to grow to maturity were Mathia (2), Ole (2), John, Halbert J. and Julius, the last-named of whom is deceased. The father was one of the organizers of the old New Hope Church, which he and Mrs. Krogwold attended and supported for many years.

Halbert J. Krogwold secured his education in the district school in New Hope Township and was reared to the life of a farmer on the old homestead, on which he has passed his entire life with the exception of five years when he was engaged in renting another farm in the same township. He has prospered well in his operations, to which he has applied himself industriously and intelligently, and the home acreage now totals 192, while in addition he has another farm in the same township of 224 acres. Both of these properties are under a high state of cultivation, and both are well improved and have good sets of buildings. In addition to being a skilled general farmer Mr. Krogwold has engaged in the breeding of cattle, his present herd being of the full-blooded Guernsey stock. He is a progressive and energetic man, with the business sense well developed, and is interested in the Garfield Creamery, of which he was one of the organizers, and the packing plant at Wausau. In his business transactions he has always borne the reputation of being fair and honorable and his standing in commercial circles is of the best.

Mr. Krogwold was married in 1894 to Miss Clara Louisa Loberg, who was born in New Hope Township, daughter of Nels L. Loberg, a sketch of whose career will be found in the review of Edward L. Loberg, elsewhere in this volume. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Krogwold: Joseph Russell, Norin Selmer, Lilla Regina, deceased, Inez Marion, Helge Charlotte, deceased, Lawrence Raymond and William Harry. Mr. and Mrs. Krogwold and their children are members and regular attendants of the old New Hope Church, of which his father was one of the founders. As a citizen Mr. Krogwold has always been a supporter of public-spirited movements for the welfare of his community and its people, and while he has not been an office holder, has wielded a certain influence for good in his locality as one of its sound and intelligent residents.

JOSEPH VEVERA. The record of Joseph Vevera is one that may be placed confidently alongside of those which comprise the history and



*A. Johnson*

individual achievements of the leading citizens of Portage county. Mr. Vevera has been a practical farmer in and around Nelsonville for thirty years and is a man whose character, whose work and whose influence are calculated to win and retain respect and esteem.

Mr. Vevera was born at Point Fortune, Canada, May 8, 1852, son of Joseph and Odile (Fournier) Vevera. Both parents were natives of Canada and of French ancestry. The father had a farm. Both are now deceased. In their family were thirteen children, and those to grow up were Athanase, Louis and Franz, twins, Belle, Zeviea, Joseph, Gleted, Julian, Odel, Thomas, Maria and Anna.

Joseph Vevera had little or no education in schools. He left home when he was fourteen years of age, and ever since that time has been earning his own way in the world. He worked at anything he could secure for several years, either on farms or in the lumber woods. With his brother Athanase he went to Green Bay, Wisconsin, and the same summer the brother died there. Joseph Vevera then worked at different places, and for sixteen years was employed by the McMillen Company, either in the lumber woods or on the company's farms at the village of McMillen.

In 1888 Mr. Vevera came to his present location and acquired his farm of eighty acres, part of which lies in Amherst Township, while considerable ground and the home are within the village of Nelsonville. Mr. Vevera has done much to improve and make this farm productive, has put up substantial buildings, including barn and house, and is still profitably engaged in farming. On June 9, 1884, he married Miss Regina Loberg, daughter of Simon N. Loberg. Mrs. Vevera was born November 23, 1855, in Dodge County, Wisconsin, and when a child removed to Waupaca County with her parents, Simon N. and Serena (Amit) Loberg. Mrs. Vevera attended the local schools of Waupaca County and after her education was employed at different places, finally at McMillen in Martin County, where she met Mr. Vevera. She is a sister of Nels S. Loberg of Forest County, of J. S. Loberg of Nelsonville.

**ANDREW YOKERS.** The agricultural industry of Wisconsin is excellently represented in Portage County. Here are found men who consider their vocation as something more than a mere occupation, and who have elevated its standards until they have nearly reached the plane of a science. In doing so they have followed along lines that their common sense, governed by years of practical experience, have directed. This is the kind of work that has contributed towards the building up of Portage as one of the most progressive farming counties of the state, and one who has done his share in a practical way in helping things along is Andrew Yokers. All who have made anything like a study or conducted extended observations of the farms that are most efficiently and progressively managed recognize in Andrew Yokers one of the real agricultural leaders.

Mr. Yokers was born in Germany January 3, 1858, son of Andrew Yokers, who died in the old country in October, just about nine months after the birth of his son Andrew. The mother, Anna Mary Yokers, accompanied her son to the United States in 1885 and lived with him until her death in 1907, at the advanced age of eighty-one years.

Mr. Andrew Yokers was the only child of his parents to come

to this country. On reaching Wisconsin in 1885 he bought 120 acres. This land is included in his present magnificent farm. Gradually as his means increased and his knowledge and efficiency grew he added to his possessions until his present farm comprises 455 acres besides a good farm of eighty acres which he gave to his son John in Stockton Township. The building improvements at once sets the Yokers farm off as a distinctive part of the agricultural landscape in Buena Vista Township. In 1899 he built the fine brick home that accommodates himself and family. In 1893 he put up a large barn and when it was burned in 1900 he rebuilt it in the following year. Mr. Yokers specializes somewhat as a breeder of thoroughbred Holstein cattle. His neighbors call him one of the most successful farmers of the township, and his own explanation of his success is that "money seems to like me." His sons are all industrious farmers who will no doubt give accounts of themselves in a way to confer additional credit upon the family name. Mr. Yokers is not a worshiper of hard manual toil for its own sake. He believes in doing things thoroughly and efficiently and when machinery can be employed to lighten the burden he buys such as is adapted to his plan of work. The Yokers farm has a general equipment of up-to-date machinery, including a couple of engines for power to run his threshing outfit, corn husker and other mills and implements.

As might be expected, Mr. Yokers' interests are not altogether concentrated on his farm. He is serving as treasurer of the Buena Vista Telephone Company, is a director of the Arnott State Bank, and was one of the organizers of the Buena Vista Creamery. He served as treasurer of the creamery for fourteen years. In politics he is a republican and is now serving as treasurer of the school district in which he resides. He and his family are members of the Evangelical Church of Stevens Point and fraternally he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and is treasurer of the Woodmen Hall Association.

In 1882 Mr. Yokers married Miss Katrina Goepper. Mrs. Yokers was born in Germany in 1859 and they were married in the old country and set sail for the new world about three years later. Mr. and Mrs. Yokers have a family of seven children, named Andrew, John, Edward G., Anna, William, Minnie and Herman F. The three younger children are still at home. Andrew married Anna Lutz, and their two children are Floyd and Thelma. John married Pearl Clark, and their family consists of four children, Lona, Gerald, Leona and Eaton Williams. Edward G. married Elizabeth Leary, and one child has been born to their union, Catherine. The daughter Anna is the wife of Ensign C. Newby, and they have a child, Marie.

LOUIS J. SEEGER, whose business at Stevens Point is insurance and investment banking, is doubtless most widely known among railway circles, and particularly for his long service with the old Wisconsin Central or the present Soo line.

Mr. Seeger when fourteen years old began earning his living as a messenger in one of the offices of the Wisconsin Central. He regarded the telegraph operators as representing the pinnacle of achievement in his youthful aspirations, and his desire to emulate them and his eager comprehension soon enabled him to pick up a practical knowledge of telegraphy, and in a few years he was as expert as any of the dis-

patchers along the line. He was promoted to train dispatcher, an office he held for eighteen years, was then made chief dispatcher, and finally was train master of the Northern Division of the Wisconsin Central. During thirty years spent in railroad work he was stationed at different times at Stevens Point, Ashland and Minneapolis. In 1911 Mr. Seeger left the railroad and returning to Stevens Point opened an office to handle insurance and investments, and has built up a highly gratifying patronage in both lines. He is also secretary of the Retailers Association of Stevens Point and secretary of the Rotary Club. Mr. Seeger is a Knight Templar Mason, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

He was born at Stockridge, Wisconsin, July 27, 1868, son of William and Amelia (Knobloch) Seeger. His mother was a native of Cleveland, Ohio, and his father was born at Tonawanda, New York. His people were early settlers in Taylor County, Wisconsin, locating at Medford, and William Seeger for many years was in business as a butcher and proprietor of a horse sales stable. Both parents are now living at Abbotsford, Wisconsin. William Seeger made an honorable record as a Union soldier, being with the Fourth Wisconsin Cavalry, enlisting from Sheboygan. In one battle he was captured and was held a prisoner of war by the Confederates for two years.

Louis J. Seeger was the oldest of three sons. He was educated in public schools, and went direct from school to work in the railroad office, as already stated, at the age of fourteen. In 1889 he married Miss Gertie Young, of Wausau, Wisconsin. They have one child, Jean.

**FRED L. TAYLOR.** The career of Fred L. Taylor reflects practical and useful ideals, and its range of activities has included the promotion of agriculture and the best interests of the community in politics and education. Primarily a farmer, owning one of the highly developed places in Plover Township, he has also given much of his time to the duties and responsibilities of public office.

Mr. Taylor was born on the farm he now owns in Plover Township October 14, 1857. His parents were George Edwin and Clarissa (Graves) Taylor. His father was born in Cattaraugus County, New York, September 15, 1820, and his mother was born in the same state in 1822. They married there, and in the year 1855, when Portage County was still almost an uncharted wilderness, came to this region and settled on a farm of eighty acres. On this farm George E. Taylor spent the rest of the years of his life except four years when he was proprietor of the Cottage Inn near Plover village. He died at the old homestead March 24, 1907, and his widow passed away in July, 1916, when ninety-four years old. He was a republican voter. He and his wife had seven children: Almarette, Maria, Laura, Frank, Fred, William, and Ella who died in infancy. George E. Taylor was not only a farmer but a practical carpenter, and in his trade did some work on the old landmarks of Portage County. He helped build the courthouse and St. Stephen's Catholic Church. He dressed and beaded the wainscoting for the court house building. He also used his skill as a carpenter in the construction of the first wooden bridge across the Wisconsin River at Stevens Point.

Mr. Fred L. Taylor grew up at the old home, attended public schools, worked in the lumber woods for ten winters, and also learned

the trade of carpenter. Among other experiences he spent several years in the west in the State of Colorado. Mr. Taylor acquired possession of the old homestead in 1885, and now for more than thirty years has steadily devoted his time and energies to general farming and stock raising.

His political affiliations have always been republican. The official annals of the township and county show that he was township supervisor for six consecutive years, assessor four years, township treasurer one year, and at thirteen different times has served as a member of local juries. He has been a warm friend of education, and for twenty-three years was a member of the School Board. Mr. Taylor is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

In February, 1881, while in Colorado, he married Miss Sarah Huett. Four children were born to their marriage, Abbie, Fred J., Myra and Irma. The oldest, Abbie, is the wife of Lester Derozier, and their children are named Ruth, Alice, Leslie, Lewis and Lyle. Fred J. Taylor married Anna Hale, of Plover Township, and has two sons, Robert and Harold. Myra is the wife of Robert Atterbury, a farmer of Plover Township, and they have one child. The youngest, Irma, is still at home with her parents, is a graduate of the Stevens Point Normal and has given eleven years of faithful and efficient service as a teacher.

**FRANK H. TIMM.** It could be claimed with a fair approximation to truth that the most widely known citizen in Portage County is Frank H. Timm, who for nearly twenty years has held and discharged the important responsibilities of clerk of the Circuit Court. Mr. Timm is a native of the county, has lived here nearly all his life, and besides his official record became known in a number of localities in the county by his effective work as a teacher.

Mr. Timm was born in this county July 17, 1865, son of Joachim and Mary (Schultz) Timm. Both parents were natives of Germany. They came to America before their marriage, the father some time in the '50s, and located in Grant Township of Portage County. His energies were always devoted to farming, and thereby he provided for his numerous family. Both parents died on the farm. The father served as township chairman for a number of years and was also one of those who assisted in organizing the Lutheran Church in his home locality. There were eleven children and seven are still living, Frank H., William J., Albert, Martha, Mary, Helmuth and Andrew.

Frank H. Timm while a boy on the farm attended the common schools. He was vigorous, energetic and had strength of body as well as strength of purpose and mind. Early in his career he suffered what seemed at the time a serious handicap. He accidentally lost an arm, but as it turned out this only diverted him to a new line of work. Attending business college at Madison he was fitted for teaching, and he also attended summer school at Dixon, Illinois. After that for eleven years he taught and was one of the popular men in educational circles in Portage County. On January 1, 1899, he began his duties as clerk of the Circuit Court, and he has faithfully and diligently handled the work of that office ever since. Mr. Timm is a member of the Lutheran Church.

In September, 1894, he married Carrie Kruger, of Wood County, Wisconsin.



**WILLIAM KOKUSEHKI.** Linwood Township has one of its oldest and best farmer citizens in the person of William Kokusehki, who has lived there continuously for almost half a century and has given a good account of his years, not only as a diligent farmer but as a man who has responded to all the demands made upon him as a citizen and head of a family.

Mr. Kokusehki was born in Prussian Poland and on February 11, 1846, arrived in the free land of America. He remained in New York State until 1868, and then came west to Ripon, Wisconsin, and in the fall of the same year took up his present location in Portage County, where in the course of time he brought about 200 acres under cultivation in section 14 of Linwood Township, and since retiring from business he still retains forty acres under cultivation. Mr. Kokusehki is also an expert apiarist, and has found both profit and diversion in keeping and managing bees for profit. At the present time he has thirty hives.

In 1867 he married Augusta Kunde, also a native of Prussian Poland. They have twelve children, as follows: Mary Bertha, Charles, Annie (deceased), William, Frederick (deceased), Henry, George (deceased), Theodore, Leo, Roy, Len and Amelia.

Mary Bertha, the oldest, married Jesse Wood and they have the following children: Guy, aged twenty-nine; Warren, aged twenty-seven; Mabel, aged twenty-five; Lee, aged twenty-two; Ruth, aged seventeen; Ethel, aged thirteen, and Inez, deceased. All the sons are unmarried and on the home farm and have relieved their father of the heavy responsibilities he formerly carried. Mr. Kokusehki is liberal in religious views and is a progressive in politics.

**NELS EVENSON.** Nels Evenson, whose family name is Loberg, though that has been largely dropped from common usage in later years, is one of Portage County's oldest living pioneer citizens. His record is a notable one, and from his activities has proceeded much of that work which has made Amherst Township one of the best agricultural sections of the county.

He was born in Norway May 23, 1833, and has now attained the dignity of more than fourscore years. His parents were Even Nelson and Gurena Jacobsdatter (Loberg) Loberg. Both parents were natives of Norway. His father died in the old country, and his mother married Jacob Jacobson Thurdahl. In 1847, when Nels Evenson was fourteen years of age, the family immigrated to America. Their first home was in Dodge County, Wisconsin, but in the spring of 1856 the Thurdahls moved with wagons and ox teams to New Hope Township of Portage County. From there they removed to Scandinavia Township of Waupaca County, where Mr. Evenson's mother and step-father both died. In New Hope Township they had settled on government land. Nels Evenson was one of four children: Johanna, who married Ole T. Lystul; Nels; Torbjorn, deceased; and Christian, also deceased. The death of the child Torbjorn was the tragedy which marred the advent of the family to America. On coming west they traveled over the Erie Canal, and while on the canal boat this child was struck while the boat was passing under a bridge. Mr. Evenson's mother by her second marriage became the mother of one child, Ingeborg, now Mrs. John Lystul of Scandinavia Township in Waupaca County.

Mr. Nels Evenson had a very limited education, chiefly in the

schools of his native land. He accompanied his parents to Wisconsin but soon afterward left home and went into the Michigan lumber woods. During the summer seasons he worked on farms in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, and finally came to Portage County with his uncle, Sunder Gunderson. That was in the fall of 1855, and they made their advent here driving a team of oxen. In Portage County Mr. Evenson took up 120 acres of land in New Hope Township. He has made considerable progress in clearing it up and putting some of it into cultivation, and also erected the first buildings of log timbers upon it. When the war came on he sold the land to Arve Gullickson, and enlisted in Company D of the Forty-Seventh Wisconsin Infantry. He was with that gallant regiment until the close of the war. Thus among other associations around his name is a worthy record as a soldier in perpetuating the Union.

Following the war he bought 200 acres of land from Andrew Thompson in Amherst Township. That has since been the scene of his activities and his home. Its improvements are largely the result of his management, and all the buildings were put there except a portion of the present barn. Mr. Nels Evenson has not allowed his interests and activities to be centered entirely on business and those matters which concern only himself and family. He has served the school board in his present district, and was a constable in New Hope Township. He also assisted in organizing the Scandinavia Lutheran Church, and the first church was built on what was called Indian land and is still at the old location. He hauled some of the timbers for this pioneer church structure and his stepfather was equally active in organizing the congregation. For over fifteen years Mr. Nels Evenson operated a threshing outfit, and threshed the grain for a large proportion of the farmers of Portage County during that time. In the Civil war he held the rank of a corporal.

Mr. Evenson has been twice married, and both his wives are now deceased. In the fall of 1855 he married in Scandinavia Township Miss Karin Erickson Tveiton. She was born in Norway, daughter of Eric Tveiton. She came to America about 1849, first lived in Waukesha County and then in Waupaca County, where she married. At her death she left two children, Ole Edward and Theodore, both of whom died young. In 1858 Mr. Nels Evenson married Miss Marin Halverson. She was born in Norway, daughter of Halvor Sorenson Nykos. Her family were early settlers of Portage County and her father died in Amherst Township on the old homestead, close to where the Evenson family now lives. Her mother, whose maiden name was Karen Christianson, died in Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Nels Evenson had five children: Carl Edward, Carolina, Hannah, John N. and Nels, the three older being now deceased.

John N. Evenson, who for many years has been associated in business with his father, was born on the old homestead in Portage County January 8, 1867. He has spent his life on the farm there and he and his father have kept house together for many years. Mr. John Evenson is a successful farmer and cattleman, and is a breeder of grade Holstein cattle. He helped organize the Portage County Co-operative Association at Amherst and was also one of the organizers of the Amherst Jersey Creamery Company and the Amherst Telephone Company and still has financial interests in these various enterprises.

JACOB ROTH, whose home is in Carson township, belongs to that class of men whom the world terms self-made, for, commencing life practically empty-handed, he has conquered the obstacles in the path of success and has not only secured for himself a good home and a competence but through his efforts has materially advanced the interests of the community in which his home is made.

Mr. Roth is a native of Switzerland, and was born November 16, 1853, being a son of Nicholas and Barbara (Geitzenaner) Roth, also natives of that country, the latter of whom died there when her only child, Jacob, was about two years of age. The father was married a second time, taking as his wife Barbara Blumer, whose death occurred at Janesville, Wisconsin, about the year 1908, there being two children born to this union: Barbara and Lizzie. The family home continued to be in Switzerland until the year 1881, when the little party of emigrants arrived at Monroe, Green County, Wisconsin, where Nicholas Roth passed the rest of his life.

The education of Jacob Roth was secured in the public schools of his native country, and there he was reared to industry. His career has shown the benefit of possessing a useful trade and of becoming a master thereof, for it is to this fact that Mr. Roth can give much credit for his early start. The trade that he learned in Switzerland was one that has been brought to perfection in that country, that of cheesemaking, a vocation which he followed until coming to the United States in 1881. Arriving at Monroe, Wisconsin, he soon found employment at his trade, but remained in that community only two years, then going to Mineral Point, Iowa County, Wisconsin. Good cheesemakers were scarce there and he found ready and profitable employment, that locality continuing to be his home and the scene of his activities for nearly twenty years, or until 1902. In the meantime he had been thrifty and industrious, had saved his earnings carefully and had added to them by good business methods, and when he arrived at Junction City he was able to purchase a farm of 360 acres in Carson Township, an investment which he has never had cause to regret. Here he has improvements of the finest order, his buildings all being lighted by electricity, while two modern silos are features of this property, which is known as the Blue Valley Dairy Farm. While general farming has formed a large part of his work, he has made a specialty of dairying, and keeps about sixty head of graded Holstein cattle. He makes a close study of his business, keeping fully abreast of the various advancements and changes being made therein, and is generally found aligned with the movements making for progress. One of the organizers of the Lone Elm Cheese Factory, Mr. Roth is president of this enterprise, and is also a member of the board of directors of the Junction City State Bank, of which institution he was also one of the promoters. Politically he is a democrat. He is a member of the school board and was the real instigator of the movement which resulted in the establishment of district No. 12, where in the past he has served efficiently as treasurer.

Mr. Roth married Miss Belle Regez, and to them there have been born seven children, namely: Jacob John, born at Mineral Point, Wisconsin, February 19, 1886, who is overseer of his father's farm and one of the energetic and skilled agriculturists of the county; Herman Louis, born December 14, 1888, also associated with his father in the operation of the home place, and an industrious and enterprising

farmer; Amelia Ottilla, born January 1, 1891, married Enoch Haus, and has three children, Elizabeth Synneve, Ragnild Florence and Thilo Enoch; Thilo Edmond, born May 1, 1893, was a student at the University of Wisconsin, and is now serving the United States in France, a member of Ammunition Train, Company B, and was wounded in action; Hildegard Bertha, born April 21, 1898, a teacher by profession who is now attending the State Normal School at Stevens Point; Florence Edna, born June 28, 1900, a graduate of the Dornster Academy at Rochester, Wisconsin; and Walter Raymond, born November 19, 1911, living with his parents and attending the district school.

FRED FOX, who is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in Plover Township, is a worthy representative of the younger farming element in this county. To a very considerable extent it is this element in any community, especially outside the large cities, which infuses spirit and zest into local activities. Mr. Fox has spent all his life in Plover Township, and has made his presence felt here as an industrious and capable farmer, a young man of broad information and highly popular among his fellow citizens.

He was born in Plover Township January 20, 1882, and is a son of Berton S. and Myrtle (Frost) Fox. It is a well known family and more of the history will be found on other pages of this publication. Mr. Fred Fox grew up on a farm, and has known the practical and fundamental elements of farm work from earliest boyhood. He received his education in the local schools. Mr. Fox bought the place he now owns in 1904. It is in section 34 of Plover Township, and he has occupied it continuously since 1907 and has done a great deal to clear it up and improve it to correspond with his ideals of progressive farm management. He has erected some good and substantial buildings, and is now well established in that agricultural section of the county.

Mr. Fox has always been an interested voter of republican principles and has taken a keen interest in local affairs, especially those affecting education. He was only twenty-one years old when he was elected a director of the local schools and has been a member of the school board for about twelve years and is now clerk of his local school board. He also served as township treasurer and township assessor, and in 1910 was assigned the duties of taking the census in Plover Township. He is affiliated with the Sons of Veterans and is a member of the United Brethren Church.

Mr. Fox married June 11, 1907, Miss Edna Parks, daughter of a prominent and well known citizen of Portage County, R. W. Parks, whose activities and whose family record are subjects of a separate sketch in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Fox had four children: Leslie, Wilbur, Kenneth and Ada May. All are living except Wilbur.

ALBERT LEONARD ROUNDS. The lumber interests in Wisconsin have been among the most important from the days of early settlement until the present. No flight of fancy could overestimate the value of the great natural forests of white pine, balsam and hemlock that once covered the greater part of the state north of its center, and for many years the converting of this magnificent timber into logs and lumber has afforded profitable employment to armies of strong and sturdy woodsmen. The full tide in this business perhaps has been

reached, but lumbering and dealing in lumber continues to be a very important business, not alone in Wisconsin, but in other sections where the forests are being, to some extent, more carefully conserved than once was thought necessary. One of the experienced men in the lumber industry at Amherst is Albert Leonard Rounds, a prominent citizen who has been president of the village for the last eleven years.

Albert Leonard Rounds was born in Winnebago County, Wisconsin, December 6, 1858. His parents were George Washington and Jane (Sittimore) Rounds, both of whom were born in Vermont. When they came to Wisconsin they settled in the village that became the site of the present city of Ripon, moving later to other sections and settling finally at Eureka in Winnebago County. The father was a blacksmith by trade and for many years he operated a hotel at Eureka. He was born August 9, 1816, and lived almost to the age of his father, who was 100 years old when he died, the family being one of unusual longevity. The mother of Albert Leonard Rounds died before the father and his last days were passed with his daughter Elma. There were four children: Elma, George, Madison and Albert Leonard.

Albert Leonard Rounds attended school in boyhood at Eureka, Wisconsin, and when he reached manhood found his best business opportunity in the northern lumber regions. It was a hard and adventurous life at that time, and most interesting are the stories Mr. Rounds can tell of his own knowledge and experience of lumbering, logging and rafting, for he continued in the business for thirty-two years. Few men in this section have a more thorough knowledge of the great lumber industry in all its details than Mr. Rounds, who has continued to be identified with one branch of it until the present. In 1902 he came to Amherst and bought the Bigler lumber yard and has conducted it ever since as an individual enterprise.

Mr. Rounds was married in 1879 to Miss Catherine Ellen Freeman, who was born at Waukesha, Wisconsin, a daughter of Joshua Freeman. Mr. and Mrs. Rounds have two daughters: Ethel Jane and Florence F. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church and they take an active part in its various lines of benevolent work. Mr. Rounds is president of the Amherst Telephone Company, and in the encouragement he has given other local enterprises has shown his interest and public spirit. As village president he has demonstrated good judgment and business ability. He has long been a member of the order of Odd Fellows.

HENRY EICHHORST is a member of Eichhorst Brothers, a firm of progressive and enterprising farmers adjoining Stevens Point who for a number of years have operated a large dairy that is one of the important sources of the milk supply in the county seat. Their farm adjoins the city limits and they run a herd of from thirty-five to forty cows annually.

The Eichhorst family came to Portage County about fifteen years ago. Mr. Henry Eichhorst was born in Illinois December 28, 1874, son of William and Sophia (Hultz) Eichhorst. His parents were both natives of Germany, the father born in 1840 and his mother in 1850. They married in the old country in 1871 and their wedding tour brought them to the United States. They made their home at Elgin, Illinois, for nearly thirty years but in 1902 came to Stevens

Point and bought a large and well improved farm of 300 acres situated in Hull Township, adjoining the city of Stevens Point. Their home was in the city itself, surrounded by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land. The father lived here only a short time, being accidentally killed in 1903. The widowed mother is still living with her children. The sons are Henry, William, Charles and Albert, while the daughters were Ricke, Mary, now deceased, Sophia Annie and Ida.

Henry Eichhorst was reared and educated at Elgin, Illinois, and was early trained to the vocation of farming. Since coming to Stevens Point in 1902 he and his brothers Albert and William have operated the old farm, though seventy-six acres have been sold. Mr. Henry Eichhorst is a republican and a member of the Lutheran Church.

August 1, 1905, he married Miss Gertrude Winger, who was born in Germany February 20, 1888. Her parents died in Germany when she was a child and in 1904 she came with her father's sister, Mrs. Anton Alker, to Chicago. Her aunt died in that city in 1910, at the age of forty-two. Mrs. Eichhorst was educated in German schools. They have one son, Henry, born February 10, 1909.

Mr. Eichhorst's brother William married Julia Nugent on November 30, 1916. She is a daughter of Richard Nugent, one of the pioneer settlers of Portage County.

**RICHARD ARMITAGE COOK.** A prominent and highly esteemed citizen of Stevens Point, Richard Armitage Cook is conspicuously identified with the industrial life of this part of Portage County, and as proprietor of the Central City Iron Works is carrying on an extensive and remunerative business. He was born May 24, 1850, in Yorkshire, England, and as a child of five years was brought by his parents to the United States.

His father, John Cook, immigrated with his family to this country in the spring of 1855, being thirteen weeks and three days before landing in New York City. Coming directly to Wisconsin, he located first in Burlington, Racine County, but later took charge of a woolen mill at Racine. After the close of the Civil war he removed with his wife and children to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and from that time until his death was superintendent of a woolen mill near there. He married Jane Armitage, who was born in England, and died in 1895 at Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Of the four children born of their union three are living, as follows: Mrs. Etta Shaffer, of Stevens Point; George William, engaged in the railroad business at Fond du Lac; and Richard Armitage, the eldest child. Both parents were members of the Congregational Church.

Richard A. Cook received excellent educational advantages when young, attending the public schools until seventeen years old, when he removed with his parents to Fond du Lac. Making good use of his natural mechanical ability he learned the machinist's trade, and in 1874 established a foundry and machine shop on Main Street, Stevens Point. Being burned out in 1891, Mr. Cook located at 319 Madison Street, where, as proprietor of the Central City Iron Works, he is carrying on business with unquestioned success. Recognized as a man of much financial ability, he has served as a director of the Citizens National Bank.

Mr. Cook has been twice married. He married first, in 1882, Eliza Trowbridge, who was born in Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin, a daughter



*H. D. Dunning*

of Horace Trowbridge, who established at Fond du Lac the foundry which is now known as the Giddings and Lewis Manufacturing Company. Prior to her marriage Miss Trowbridge was a teacher in the Fond du Lac schools. Two children were born of their union, Charles Horace, who died in infancy, and Alice, now living at home. Mrs. Eliza Trowbridge Cook died in early womanhood, her death occurring October 4, 1888. Mr. Cook married for his second wife, May 17, 1890, Miss Delia E. Damp, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, who was at one time a teacher in the Stevens Point High School. Their son, Ralph Cook, who was graduated from the local high school with the class of 1913, and subsequently attended the State Normal School, is now employed in his father's office.

Politically Mr. Cook is identified with the republican party, and is active in public affairs, having served as an alderman a number of terms, while for the past eight years he has been a member of the Stevens Point Board of Education, for two terms serving as its president. He is a thirty-second degree Mason, belonging to Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandery, and to the Wisconsin Consistory at Milwaukee. Religiously he is a member of the Episcopal Church and one of its wardens.

**JOSEPH J. OMERNIK.** For a long period of years the community of Polonia has appreciated the services of Mr. Omernik as a merchant and business man. Success in merchandising is based primarily on good service and character, and the success that has attended Mr. Omernik's efforts is ample proof of the esteem he has won and enjoys.

A native of Portage County, he was born in Sharon Township March 19, 1869, son of Albert Joseph and Victoria Omernik. His parents came from Europe in 1858, lived in Canada for several years, and in 1866 established their home on a farm in Sharon Township of Portage County. They were hard working and thrifty people who though coming here comparatively poor left to their credit a large and well improved farm of two hundred acres and also conducted themselves as model citizens. Both were people of great vitality and lived to extreme old age. They died at Polonia, the father in 1910, at the age of ninety-six, and the mother in 1917, aged ninety-four. Albert Joseph Omernik was one of the men chiefly responsible for building and developing the fine Catholic Church at Polonia. He and his wife had eight children: Elizabeth, Anton, Margaret, Frank, Nick, Joseph J., Sister Eloisia, at St. Francis Convent, and Sister Antonina, the superior of St. Francis Convent in Detroit, Michigan.

Joseph J. Omernik grew up on the homestead farm and was educated in local schools and also at Detroit, Michigan. In 1891 he began merchandising at Polonia and has been selling goods to that community for over a quarter of a century. In 1900 he took special training in the Stevens Point Business College, to further fit him for a business career. At the present time the large general department store is conducted under the name Omernik & Company. His son Henry is now proprietor of the grocery and dry goods departments, while Mr. Omernik, Sr., looks after the other departments. He owns the store building, which was reconstructed in 1903, and now occupies ground 64x70 feet, with three fronts.



Mr. Omernik is a democrat and is now treasurer of the township, and has held that office for fifteen consecutive years. He was formerly clerk of his school district, and his son Henry was the first secretary of the County Board of Education. The family are members of the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia.

In 1891 Mr. Omernik married Miss Frances Lapinski, of Portage County. Their married life was continued for nearly a quarter of a century. Mrs. Omernik died January 1, 1915, the mother of a splendid family of children, nine in number. Henry, the oldest, born January 19, 1893, was educated in the public and parochial schools, graduated from the Stevens Point Business College and for a number of years has been associated with his father in business and is now sole proprietor of his own department in the store. He married, June 15, 1915, Mattie Milanowski, and they have one child, Myron, born April 20, 1916. Damian Peter, the second child, born February 21, 1895, was educated in the public and parochial schools and the Stevens Point Business College, and is now the soldier member of the family, formerly stationed at Camp Grant, and later transferred to Eagle Pass, Texas. Rosella, born March 3, 1898, died in 1900, aged two years and six days. Sophia, born May 30, 1901, has attended the public and parochial schools and has taken the short course in the Stevens Point Normal. Alexander, born April 15, 1903, was educated in the public and parochial schools and is now at home with his father. Ignats, born July 30, 1905, is a student in the parochial schools. Ernest, born December 25, 1907, is also a schoolboy. Onufry Max was born June 12, 1910, and is a young schoolboy, while the youngest, Clara, was born August 30, 1914. On July 3, 1916, Mr. Omernik married Miss Leokadia Kontni, of Portage County. They have two children, Frances, born April 19, 1917, and Emilia Mary, born July 9, 1918.

**WILLIAM E. FISHER.** An able and influential member of the Wisconsin bar, William E. Fisher has made a wise application of his abilities to the profession of his choice, and being thoroughly conversant with the intricacies of law has achieved marked success, being numbered among the leading attorneys of Stevens Point. A native of Wisconsin, he was born in Farmington Township, Waupaca County.

His father, the late F. C. Fisher, came to Wisconsin in 1862, and having bought land in Farmington Township was there engaged in agricultural pursuits during his remaining years. A republican in politics, he was prominent in local affairs, serving several terms as township chairman and being a member of the local board of education for fully a quarter of a century. His widow, Dorothea Fisher, is still living.

Scholarly in his tastes and ambitions, William E. Fisher had better opportunities for acquiring an education than most of the farmers' sons of his community, being graduated from the Waupaca High School with the class of 1897; attended the literary department of the University of Wisconsin and graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan in 1903, receiving the degree of L.L. B. Mr. Fisher then began the practice of law in Waupaca, becoming junior member of the firm of Browne & Browne & Fisher. He afterwards spent two years in Merrill, Wisconsin, as junior member of the firm of Van Hecke & Fisher. Coming from there to

Stevens Point, Mr. Fisher continued the practice of his profession as head of the law firm of Fisher, Hanna & Cashin. Mr. Hanna having withdrawn, this firm is now known as Fisher & Cashin, and is carrying on an extensive business, having a large clientele and being identified as counsel with many of the more important cases of the county and state. While living in Waupaca, and also in Merrill, Mr. Fisher served as city attorney. Mr. Fisher is attorney for the Chicago, Milwaukee and Saint Paul Railway Company, and also for the Green Bay and Soo lines. He is likewise officially connected with several local organizations, being one of the directorate of the First National Bank of Stevens Point, a director of the Civic and Commercial Association of the city and of the Portage County Red Cross Chapter and a member of the Exemption Board and Fuel Administration for Portage County.

A thirty-second degree Mason, Mr. Fisher belongs to Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandery, and to Milwaukee Consistory, and is also a member of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He also belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and to the Royal Arcanum.

Mr. Fisher married, in 1909, Miss Elsie M. Minn, of Milwaukee.

**MICHAEL G. FEELY.** One of the interesting items of the early history of Portage County is concerned with the fact that in the year 1840, when with the exception of a few settlements around the lakes and along the largest rivers, Wisconsin Territory was a vast wilderness, there came out from Pennsylvania a young man named Owen Feely, who spent the summer in breaking up some land and planting a crop of corn. That was one of the first instances of the work of civilized man in this region. But when the crop was raised and harvested Owen Feely went back to Pennsylvania, and a number of years passed before he saw Portage County again.

Owen Feely was born in New York State in 1806. However, he was reared and educated in Pennsylvania, and after his brief stay in Portage County he returned to that state and married Miss Margaret Feely. His wife was born in Ireland in 1822. In 1840 Owen Feely brought his young wife back to Portage County and they located in Stockton Township. When the land came on to the market he acquired 160 acres, and in the course of time had most of it cleared and improved with good buildings. Owen Feely knew Portage County when it was the home of more Indians than white men, and as a hunter in the early days he was seldom satisfied with anything less than deer. He was a remarkable man in many ways, not only for the vigor with which he prosecuted his various endeavors, but also for the vitality which enabled him to live to the extreme age of 104 years. He died in 1910. His first wife, Margaret, died in 1867. Her children were: William M., born March 18, 1850, deceased; Eliza Jane, born February 13, 1852, also deceased; Nancy Ellen, born January 13, 1854, deceased; Christopher Lawrence, born December 24, 1855, deceased; Margaret Johanna, born February 22, 1858; John Patrick, born February 28, 1860; Owen, born May 18, 1862; James I., born May 28, 1864; and Michael G., born September 1, 1865. Owen Feely married for his second wife Mary Feely, a sister of his first companion. She died in 1914. By that union there was one child, Catherine, now deceased.

One of this family has already been named. Michael G. Feely was born, as noted, on September 1, 1865. His birth occurred on the farm he now owns in Stockton Township. He was given a good education in the public schools, and eventually became owner of the farm of his father, containing 160 acres. During his ownership he has made some substantial improvements and is successfully identified with the county agricultural affairs as a farmer and stock raiser. In earlier life he worked at one time during the grading of the Wisconsin Central Railway through the county and he also spent a number of winters in the woods.

In politics he is a democrat and has served for three years as a director of the school board, though office holding is not within the line of his special inclinations. All the members of the Feely family in Portage County have been active members of the Catholic Church.

November 18, 1903, Mr. Feely married Miss Amanda Comfort. She was born at Wilmington, Delaware, March 10, 1865, daughter of Ezra and Mary (McMulkin) Comfort. Her mother was born in County Fermagh, Ireland, and her father in Pennsylvania. Her parents married at Wilmington, Delaware, and in 1872 came west and settled in Stockton Township on 200 acres of land. Here her parents spent the rest of their days, her mother dying in 1883, when about fifty years old, and her father on March 2, 1908, at the age of seventy-five. The children of Ezra Comfort and wife were: John, born June 28, 1859; Edmond, born March 15, 1863; Amanda, born March 10, 1865; Mary, born January 19, 1867; Ezra, born March 22, 1870; Harry, born December 23, 1873; and Matilda, born February 27, 1879.

Mr. and Mrs. Feely have two sons, Earl Christopher, born October 9, 1904, and Kenneth Michael, born March 16, 1907.

LORENZO P. MOBERG has spent his active life in Amherst Township, is a thoroughly experienced farmer, and is now giving his chief attention to the potato buying business at Amherst.

He represents one of the oldest and best known families of the town. Mr. Moberg was born December 23, 1875, a son of Andrew and Emma (Buck) Moberg. His father came to this section of Wisconsin in 1851, and the family located in the town of Amherst when only three other families lived in that vicinity. The Mobergs acquired a homestead just east of the village of Amherst. Andrew Moberg, though very young at the time, entered the Civil war as a Union soldier, and saw some active duty in Tennessee. Both he and his wife are still living on their farm at Amherst. The mother's brother was also a Union soldier and served with Sherman in the great campaign through Georgia and the Carolinas. Andrew Moberg and wife had the following children: Chester, deceased; Lorenzo P.; Harry, deceased; Leonard, editor of the *Advocate* at Amherst; Adelbert, still living on the home farm; George, who is in an army training camp at Waco, Texas; Harriet, Lucy and Grace, all of whom are married, the first two living in Wisconsin and the last in Washington.

Lorenzo P. Moberg was reared on and in early life came in close touch with a farm and its discipline. Some years ago he bought a farm of 120 acres in Lanark Township and still operates it. It was only partly improved when he acquired it, and he has since cleared

away much of the land, developed it for cropping purposes, and has erected some substantial buildings.

However, his headquarters and office are now in Amherst, where he conducts the potato warehouse in partnership with Starks & Company of Amherst. They also operate a branch warehouse at Amherst Junction.

Mr. Moberg married Miss Margaret Cooney. She was born in the town of Lanark. They are the parents of three children, Lyle, Leon and Andrew, all of whom are still members of the home circle, and are being carefully educated. Mr. and Mrs. Moberg have town property at Amherst and are now planning the construction of a substantial home of their own. Mr. Moberg owns stock in the Woodmen Building Association of Amherst and is an active member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a trustee of the village and has served as supervisor of the town of Lanark three terms, but finally resigned that office. He and his wife are members of St. James Church.

LOUIS A. POMEROY. The career of Louis A. Pomeroy, of Amherst, has been one of honorable attainment of well-deserved success. His life story presents no spectacular chapters; rather it is an expression of steady and persistent application to a given line of achievement, and while its climax has by no means been reached as yet, it is interesting as an illustration of what a man may accomplish when, starting with no advantages, he makes profitable use of his opportunities. Mr. Pomeroy has passed his entire career in the atmosphere of finance. His earliest experience when he started upon his independent career was with the McCulloch Bank, and during the past twenty years he has served as cashier of the International Bank of Amherst, of which institution he was one of the organizers.

Mr. Pomeroy is a native son of Wisconsin, having been born at Weyauwega, Waupaca County, July 6, 1866. His educational training was secured in the public schools of his native locality and extended until he reached the age of sixteen years, at which time he decided to take his place among the world's workers, accordingly going to Stevens Point, where he obtained a position in a grocery store and later in the McCulloch Bank, first as bookkeeper and subsequently as teller. During the following ten years he learned much about the banking business, and when in 1892 it was realized that Amherst was in need of a sound financial institution to represent the moneyed interests of this locality, which had been steadily growing in importance, he recognized an opportunity and was quick to accept it, becoming one of the organizers of the International Bank. It was not until 1897, however, that he removed to Amherst, when he took over the duties of cashier of this institution. He has since that time occupied this post, and it is not to be denied that much of the success of the institution is due to his careful, conscientious, conservative and capable labor. The depositors of the International Bank were not long in recognizing the fact that they could rely implicitly upon his judgment and integrity, and this spirit of confidence has been important in the matter of securing new business for the institution and in solidifying the bond of mutual faith between institution and patrons.

On November 25, 1890, Mr. Pomeroy was united in marriage, at Stevens Point, with Miss Jessie A. Campbell, of that city, and they

are the parents of one son; Harry B., a young man of promise in the business and financial world, who is now acting in the capacity of assistant cashier of the International Bank. Mr. Pomeroy's interests have largely centered in his official duties and have left him small time, had he the inclination, to devote to politics or other outside matters. However, he takes a helpful interest in all that pertains to the general welfare, and is a well-known fraternalist, being a thirty-second degree Mason and a member of the Shrine.

**JUDGE JOHN A. MURAT.** A prominent member of the legal fraternity of Portage County, Judge John A. Murat, of Stevens Point, has gained distinction in his profession, and as a man of much ability occupies an honored position in the business life of the city. A native of Wisconsin, he was born August 22, 1848, in Milwaukee, then a small city.

His father, John P. Murat, a son of a French father, spent his childhood and early manhood in Norway, where he met and married Bertha H. Sorenson, a native of Norway. Wishing to take advantage of the opportunities America offered the poor man, he immigrated to the United States in 1841, and for seven years lived in Milwaukee. Going then to Waukesha County, Wisconsin, he remained there until June, 1856, when he located in Amherst Township, Portage County. He was a carpenter by trade, making a specialty of ship carpentering, and followed his chosen occupation while residing in Milwaukee. He also owned land in all these places, and carried on general farming up to the time of his death, having improved land that he took up from the government. He was a delegate to the convention that created the republican party, and was afterwards one of the earnest supporters of its principles. Active in public affairs, he held various township offices. Of the five sons and three daughters born to him and his wife, six children are living, two of the sons having died in early life.

A child when brought by his parents to Portage County, John A. Murat gained a limited knowledge of the common branches of learning in the district schools, and subsequently made the best use of the educational means available, by reading and studying fitting himself for a teacher. He taught school for awhile, and later was engaged in railroad building. In January, 1879, Mr. Murat was elected registrar of deeds for Portage County, and served in that capacity ably and acceptably for ten years. In 1889 he was elected to his present position as county judge, and for the past two years has also served as acting judge of the Probate Court of Waupaca County. Judge Murat was one of the organizers of County Judges' Convention, of which he has been president two terms. He was one of the organizers of the Citizens National Bank of Stevens Point, of which he has been a director since its formation, and for many years its vice president. The Judge is also president of two village organizations.

On December 28, 1872, Judge Murat was united in marriage with Miss Emma E. Nyquist, born in Sweden, a woman of culture and refinement. She passed to the life beyond June 18, 1917, leaving three children, namely: Le Roy J. N. and Walter B., well known attorneys of Stevens Point; and Stella B., wife of Lyman A. Copps, of Stevens Point. Religiously Judge Murat is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

MICHAEL J. FRIDAY. To accomplish as much as Michael J. Friday has accomplished in Portage County demands not only phenomenal energy but a ruggedness and integrity of character that in no small degree accounts for the esteem in which he is held as a citizen as well as a business man.

Mr. Friday has always been inured to hard work as a leverage to get him the things he desired. He was born in Poland September 29, 1855, and has lived in America since he was ten years old. His parents, Frank and Kate Friday, were natives of the same country and emigrated with their children to Canada in 1861 and in 1865 came to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Two months later they went to Berlin, Wisconsin, spent two months there and in the fall of the same year arrived in Portage County, where Frank Friday bought a farm in Hull Township. It was really only a tract of wilderness land and he cleared it up and made it a cultivated farm. He lived there until his death. His widow, who was born in 1827, is now living with her son Michael at the advanced age of ninety-one. Both parents were members of St. Peter's Catholic Church. They had six children: Michael; Joseph and John, both deceased; Harry, who lives in Michigan; Frank, who died on the old farm when about eight years old; and Mary.

Michael J. Friday attended school several terms in Canada and also the public schools in Hull Township and St. Mary's parish school in Milwaukee. Most of his education has been picked up in the intervals of experience. When he was about ten years old he began working for his living, and while his early training was that of a farmer he also did work when the Wisconsin Central Railway was being constructed through this county, and spent several winters and summers in the lumber woods and on the river. Mr. Friday finally acquired the ownership of the old farm in Hull Township, and remained there a practical agriculturist until about 1893. For fifteen years he was in the grocery business at Stevens Point associated with his brother-in-law, Martin Kieliszewski. He then acquired sole ownership of the business and continued it for five years at the same location occupied by his present well known business headquarters. After retiring from the grocery trade Mr. Friday engaged in the furniture business and in 1917 added a stock of general hardware. His place of business is familiar to all the people of Stevens Point and surrounding trade territory by the name Guarantee Hardware & Furniture Company at 117 North Second Street. His large and well selected stock is housed in a building 50 feet by 100 feet, and the business is a family concern, the active partners besides Mr. Michael Friday being his sons Max, August and Valentine. Max is manager of the store while August is bookkeeper.

Mr. Friday has always voted as a democrat and was one of the prominent men of his party in Hull Township. He was a member of the school board there, was clerk of the board, was elected township treasurer and held that office six years consecutively and for two years was township clerk. When St. Peter's parish began the construction of its new edifice Mr. Friday was elected secretary of the church board and carried those responsibilities five years. He is also prominent in the Polish National Alliance, being present secretary of the local Chapter No. 14 and has filled the offices of its president and treasurer. He is also a member and president of St. Joseph Society.

In 1883 Mr. Friday married Miss Mary Rekowski, who was born in Poland but was living in Portage County at the time of her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Friday had twelve children: Annie, who is a sister of the Order of St. Joseph of Milwaukee, and for several years has been a teacher at Princeton, Wisconsin; Harry and Julia, both of whom died when about eight years old; Max, a member of the Guarantee Hardware & Furniture Company, married Sophie Ribyzki and has two children, Jerome and Robert; Julia, who died in infancy; August, also a member of the firm; Rosie, at home; Valentine; Helen; John; Bernice; and Henry. Mr. Friday and family reside in one of the good homes of Stevens Point, at 203 Washington Avenue.

**WILLIAM L. PLAYMAN.** It is not always possible to name any one determining factor in a man's business success, but it is pretty certain that industry, perseverance, thoroughness and integrity have played important parts. This has been the case with William L. Playman, who may be named a leading general contractor at Stevens Point, of which city he is also a highly valued citizen.

William L. Playman is a native of Wisconsin, born at Milwaukee July 29, 1858. His parents were William and Ida (Parsale) Playman, both of whom were born, reared and schooled in Germany. During the stormy days of 1848 they came to the United States and found their first home in the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where the father found work with the St. Paul Railroad Company. Later he moved to Outagamie County and became a farmer and many years later to Stevens Point, where his death occurred in May, 1916, when aged eighty-seven years. The mother died in 1910, at Bessemer, Michigan, aged eighty-two years. Their children, six in number, are all living, namely: Sophia, Charles, William L., Fred, Minnie and Flora. The parents were members of the Lutheran Church.

William L. Playman was eight years old when his parents moved from Milwaukee to the farm in Outagamie County. He attended the country schools in boyhood and remained on the farm for about seven years and then went to Neenah, Wisconsin, and secured work in a paper mill there. He remained at Neenah for ten years, in the meanwhile learning the carpenter trade. In 1888 he came to Stevens Point, and this place has been his home ever since and for a number of years he has been prominent in the general contracting line and as a business man has a reputation for reliability that is unquestioned. He has been identified with much of the important building going on here for several decades and is well known and respected in the associate building trades.

Mr. Playman was married May 24, 1884, to Miss Clara Bishop, who was born in Outagamie County, Wisconsin, and is a daughter of Thomas and Adelia (Chase) Bishop. The father of Mrs. Playman was born at Durham, Massachusetts, December 30, 1828, and was a son of Robert and Elizabeth Bishop, who came from England to Boston, Massachusetts, in the year of his birth. Robert Bishop was a man of great importance. He was a manufacturer and is credited with being the first weaver of ingrain carpet in the United States, and that it was through his enterprise that the manufacture of writing paper became a stable industry at South Lee, Massachusetts. An interesting fact is that in the sale of this paper in New York Mr. Bishop had the assistance of Cyrus West Field, when a young man.

who later became a manufacturer of paper also, long before he turned his attention to ocean telegraphy.

In 1842 Thomas Bishop came to Wisconsin, accompanied by his family, and located in what is now Waukesha County. During 1847, 1848 and 1849 he engaged in the manufacture of carriages and put up the first building for fine carriage work in Milwaukee. From 1850 to 1853 he was in business at East Troy in Walworth County, and in the latter year moved to Dale in Outagamie County, and from there in 1864 to Neenah, Wisconsin. In 1865, in association with Daniel De Long, he started the first marble shop at Neenah and continued in that business until 1880. Subsequently he became interested in insurance and real estate, and for a number of years afterward held political office of some kind. He was a notary public and when he was a candidate for assessor of Neenah his popularity was so great that he was elected by the entire city lacking two votes. He was a justice of the peace at Dale and later at Neenah and was honored and respected beyond the majority of men. His death occurred at Neenah in 1891, at the age of sixty-three years. The mother of Mrs. Playman was born in New York, one of a family of fourteen children, and died at Appleton, Wisconsin, April 19, 1914, when aged eighty years. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

To Mr. and Mrs. Playman the following children were born: Myrtle Adelia, a graduate of the high school and the state normal school, was a highly valued teacher for ten years and is now the wife of Alfred E. Halverson, residing at Roseau in Northwestern Minnesota. Ernest Eugene, who carried off the highest honors of his class when graduated from the high school and later took a business college course at Stevens Point, is engaged in business at St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. He was married October 6, 1913, to Miss Alva Comer, and they have two children, Marion Clarice and William Comer. Mr. Playman taught in a number of business colleges prior to accepting his present position with the Baker Land & Title Company. Hazel Alice died in infancy. Irma Geneva, who was graduated from the Wisconsin State Normal School in the class of 1917, is engaged in teaching at Drummer, Wisconsin. William Lyle is a member of Battery E, One Hundred and Twentieth Field Artillery, National Army, whose address, with other noble young Americans, may soon be "somewhere in France," all honor to them.

In politics Mr. Playman has always supported the democratic ticket, as did his father. He has frequently been called to public office and in 1808, in 1914 and 1915 represented the Third Ward as a city alderman, his sound business judgment making him a valuable member of the city council. He belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and also to the Equitable Fraternal Union. He is a man of solid character and no history of Portage County would be complete without naming him one of her sterling citizens. With his family he belongs to the Presbyterian Church. He is largely a self made man, his early educational opportunities being rather meager, but his home training was good, giving him moral stamina and encouraging self reliance, and he never lacked industry, courage or perseverance.

MARTIN O. WROLSTAD. Among the representatives of the farming industry in Portage County who are also extensively interested in



matters of business importance, one who has been more than ordinarily prominent is Martin O. Wrolstad, of New Hope Township. A resident of this community practically all of his life, he has been identified with the promotion and maintenance of a number of enterprises, and while a man engrossed in numerous business affairs has always found time to contribute of his abilities to the community, having filled a number of elective offices with distinction.

Mr. Wrolstad was born on his present farm in New Hope Township, near Peru, Portage County, February 2, 1856, and is a son of Ole Olson and Osele (Snaoss) Wrolstad. His parents, natives of Norway, were married there, and not long after their union went to France, where they embarked upon a sailing vessel from Havre, which eventually made port at New York City. Mr. Wrolstad was born March 6, 1810, and his wife March 30, 1814, and it was sometime in the '40s that they came to this country, so they were comparatively young people when they elected to cast their fortunes with strangers in a new country. From New York City they made their way via the Hudson River, the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes directly to Muskegon, Michigan, but after a short stay there pushed on to Rock River, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, where they had a farm. Eventually, however, Mr. and Mrs. Wrolstad came to New Hope Township, the father securing a tract of land in the heavy timber. After much hard labor he succeeded in clearing and improving this property, added thereto and put up good buildings and finally became the possessor of a handsome and valuable property of 280 acres. In addition to his farming ventures he was interested in other lines of business, having been the founder of a sawmill at Northland, Waupaca County. This he later sold to his sons and went to Alban Township, Portage County, where he started another mill and conducted it for some years. His last years were spent with his son in New Hope Township, and both he and Mrs. Wrolstad died on the homestead place here. They were the parents of six children: Ole, deceased; John, deceased, who fought for four years during the Civil war with the Fifteenth Wisconsin Infantry, sometimes known as the Scandinavian Regiment; George, who also fought as a soldier during the Civil war and returned from that struggle safely, but is now deceased; Halvor; Hans, deceased; and Martin O. Ole O. Wrolstad was one of the men who organized New Hope Township and held a number of local offices, being elected thereto by his fellow-citizens who had come to know and appreciate his many sterling qualities of character and his integrity in all matters of life.

Martin O. Wrolstad commenced his education in the district school in New Hope Township, this being supplemented by attendance at the Waupaca High School. He was reared as a farmer, but when still a young man spent several years in superintending the operation of the sawmill in Alban Township which was owned by his father, the older man being in feeble health at the time. When four or five years had passed he was married and returned to the old home farm, upon which he has since continued to make his home with the exception of four years when he was serving as county treasurer and lived at Stevens Point. Mr. Wrolstad is now the owner of 180 acres of some of the most fertile and productive land in the township, and the appearance of this farm has been greatly improved by the erection of a number of new buildings, although a part of his house is composed

of the original home, one of the oldest buildings in his part of the county. In addition to carrying on general farming he engages extensively in the breeding of full-blooded Ayreshire cattle. He is likewise treasurer of the New Hope Fire Insurance Company, of which he was one of the organizers; is president of the Farmers' Produce Company of Rosholt, of which he was also one of the organizers; assisted in the organization of the Iola Stock Shipping Association and is still an officer thereof; and has been secretary of the creamery at Peru since its organization, with the exception of four years.

Mr. Wrolstad was married December 15, 1881, to Miss Hannah Wrolstad, who was born in Scandinavia Township, Waupaca County, Wisconsin, daughter of George Wrolstad, and to this union there have been born six children, as follows: Rev. George Oliver, a minister of the Lutheran faith; Henry Edwin; Alfred, who is engaged in merchandising at Peru; and Elmer, William and Agnes, who reside with their parents. Mr. Wrolstad and his family are members of the Lutheran Church of South New Hope, of which he was one of the organizers, just as his father was one of the organizers of the old New Hope Church. As an official Mr. Wrolstad has been the incumbent of a number of offices, having served as side supervisor, justice of the peace and township chairman of New Hope Township, and in 1898 was elected treasurer of Portage County and served capably in that office for four years. His official record is an excellent one and in every respect he is accounted one of the substantial representatives of the best element in Portage County.

PETER EDWARD DORSCHIED has spent the years since early childhood in Portage County, and has ordered his life along the pleasant and not unprofitable lines of agriculture, being owner of one of the best farms of Buena Vista Township.

He was born in Erie County, New York, August 24, 1854, oldest of the family of twelve children of John and Catherine (Esse) Dorscheid, the former born in Germany February 4, 1830, and the latter in France January 21, 1833. They came to America as children, and married at Strykersville in Erie County, New York State. For nineteen years John Dorscheid worked in a tannery there, rolling leather. John Dorscheid enlisted and served three years in Company F of the Forty-Third Wisconsin Infantry. He was long an honored member of Plainfield Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. He and his wife established their home in Portage County in 1866, and in the following year located on eighty acres of land, where he lived until his death April 2, 1912. His widow died November 11, 1917. They had been married for fifty-seven years.

Mr. Dorscheid began his education in the parochial schools of New York, and was about eleven years old when his parents came to Portage County. Here he soon came face to face with the serious responsibilities of life, and after attending school for a time went to work in the woods and in the saw mills. The products of his industry enabled him to acquire his first land, which was situated in Almond Township. He had eighty acres but sold that and in 1885 bought the farm he now owns in Buena Vista Township. This was, when he bought it, eighty acres of completely untamed land in a district that had seen no work of development. He was in fact the first man to

haul a load of farm produce over the bluffs from his place. He has been steadily at work for over a period of thirty-five years, has cleared the land and made it profitable, has erected buildings and is one of the substantial farmers and stock raisers of that vicinity.

In matters of politics Mr. Dorscheid votes independently. He has been a member of the school board of his locality for nine years and for one year was a road commissioner.

May 5, 1884, Mr. Dorscheid married Miss Jennie Smith. Mrs. Dorscheid represents a family of note and including some of the early settlers of Portage County. She was born at Guayaquil in Ecuador, South America, July 1, 1862. However, she has spent most of her life in the United States and her people were early settlers of New Jersey. Her grandparents, Benjamin C. and Sarah (Sutton) Smith, were both born in Mercer County, New Jersey, moved from there to Trenton and later to Wilmington, Delaware, and spent their last days in Philadelphia. Her grandfather was a currier or leather dresser by trade. The Smith family were members of the Catholic Church. Benjamin Smith and wife had the following children: Oswin, Virginia, Peter T., Ella, Addie and William. The last named at the age of sixteen, enlisted as a drummer boy in the Civil war and was killed in the battle of Fredericksburg.

Mrs. Dorscheid is a daughter of Oswin and Sarah (Clark) Smith. Oswin Smith was born at Trenton, New Jersey, December 20, 1837. As a boy he attended private schools taught by Deborah Foster and Roswell Howe. He also attended public school. At the age of eighteen he began an apprenticeship at the trade of gas fitter. It was in 1859 that he went to South America and located at Guayaquil, where he remained for a short while. He then went back to Philadelphia, but remained only a month, when he returned to South America and was there another two years. After a brief visit to Philadelphia of about two weeks, he came in 1870 to Buena Vista Township and bought a farm of 160 acres. This land he cleared up, and occupied it until April, 1905, when he removed to Stevens Point, where he is now living retired at 911 East Avenue. In politics he is a democrat, and was formerly a member of the Board of Supervisors of Buena Vista Township. He is a member of the Catholic Church.

June 12, 1859, Oswin Smith married Sarah Clark, who was born in Ireland November 25, 1841, daughter of James and Margaret (Cannon) Clark. Her parents came to America and located at Wilmington, Delaware, in 1852, and a few years later were early arrivals in Portage County. James Clark died here in 1871 and his wife on May 5, 1880. He was a farmer in Ireland and also in this country. The Clarks were Catholics. Their children were: Jane, Margaret, William, Catherine, Sarah, James and Isabel, all of whom are now deceased except Mrs. Sarah Smith.

Oswin and Sarah Smith had a large family of twelve children, brief references to whom are as follows: William James, the oldest, died in infancy. Jane, the second, is the wife of Mr. Dorscheid. Annie married Shepard Kollock, of Almond Township, and is the mother of two children, Henry and Wellington. Alice married Lewis Sovey, of Stevens Point, and their children are Nellie, Sarah, Alice May, Oswin and Louise. William, also a resident of Almond Township, married Florence Lee and has two children, Evelyn and Margaret. Ella is the wife of Bradley Willett, of Stevens Point, and they have

a family consisting of Gladys, Arthur, Fern, Kenneth, Morris and Bradford. Margaret is the wife of Edward Baldwin, of Bayfield, Wisconsin, and is the mother of eight children, named Gerald, Margaret, Edward, Oswin, William, Morris, Woodrow and Beatrice. Katie Bell is the wife of Daniel O'Connell, of Bayfield, Wisconsin, and they have seven children, James, Florence, Daniel, Wallace, Kenneth, Lucile and Charles. Marie married Ernest Precourt, of Buena Vista Township, and of their seven children Earl, the oldest, is now in training at Camp Grant, the others being named Rilla, Melvin, James, Ada, Virginia and Clair. Theresa is the wife of Delbert Otto, and has three children, Adaline, Ruth and Alice. Adaline, the eleventh of the family, is the wife of Gerhard Marshall, of Stevens Point, son of James Marshall, mentioned elsewhere in this publication. The youngest of the Smith family, James, died when five years old.

Mr. and Mrs. Dorscheid have two children and three grandchildren. Frances, their daughter, born October 26, 1885, was educated in the public schools and the Almond Township High School, was a popular teacher of this county for seven years and is now the wife of Henry Brahmstadt. They live at Saratoga in Wood County, Wisconsin. Their one child is named Ruth Marie. John Edward Dorscheid, only son of the family, was born February 15, 1888. He had a public school education. On May 27, 1908, he married Miss Ida Melbissa Newby, who was born in Buena Vista Township November 15, 1888, daughter of George O. Newby, of that locality. Their two children are Kenneth Edward, born June 15, 1909, and Alice May, born September 11, 1912.

ALFRED E. REDFIELD represents one of the earliest families to establish homes in the wilderness of this county. His grandparents were Asel and Millicent (Olin) Redfield, both natives of New York State, the former born in 1792 and the latter in 1797. It was in 1853 that they brought their family west to the young State of Wisconsin, locating at Menasha. Asel Redfield was a farmer by occupation, and died at Menasha December 7, 1858. His widow passed away in Wau-paca, Wisconsin. He was a member of the Methodist Church and his wife of the Presbyterian faith. They had a large family of thirteen children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Sarah, December 21, 1817; Joel, July 6, 1819; Jared, March 23, 1820; Emily, November 11, 1822; Elizabeth, January 3, 1824; Martin, September 17, 1826; Charles, September 3, 1829; Arthur Benjamin, November 3, 1830; Elihu, April 12, 1833; John Henry, April 13, 1835; James, October 4, 1837; James, March 20, 1839; and Abigail, March 18, 1841.

Arthur Benjamin Redfield, father of Alfred E., was the pioneer of the family in Portage County. He was born in Chenango County, New York, November 3, 1830, and was well educated in his home state both in public schools and academy. He was twenty-three years old when his parents came to Menasha, Wisconsin, and in the following year he sought home and opportunity to advance himself in the world at the new and primitive settlement of Stevens Point. Here he engaged in carpenter work, and later for a number of years had charge of the supplies for the Wisconsin Central Railway. For about twelve years he was a postal clerk. In 1864 he enlisted in Company D of the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry and was in service until the close of the war, being present at the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. He be-

came a charter member of the Grand Army Post at Stevens Point, and at one time was also head of the Relief Commission for the county. In later years he was a grocery merchant at Stevens Point, and finally retired from business altogether and died here July 22, 1911, in his eighty-first year. He attended the Baptist Church, of which his wife was a devout member.

March 28, 1855, Arthur B. Redfield married Miss Phebe Otis. She likewise represented a pioneer family of Wisconsin. She was born in Clinton County, New York, August 27, 1837, daughter of Andral and Excey (Storrs) Otis. Her father was born in Connecticut in 1800 and her mother in New York State in 1805. When Wisconsin was still a territory they came west and settled in Dane County in 1844, and subsequently moved to a farm in Burnett County, where Andral Otis died in 1883. His widow survived him and passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Redfield, in Stevens Point in 1888. Andral Otis was a democrat, but broke away from party allegiance to the extent of supporting Abraham Lincoln for president in war times. He and his wife were members of the Baptist Church, and for many years he held the post of deacon. They had five children: Phebe, Caroline, Henry, Amanda and Dirwin. Arthur B. Redfield and wife became the parents of seven children: Frank, who died February 5, 1891, married Mary Houston and had two children, Arthur and Frank. Martin died at the age of six years. Emma is the widow of Andrew Fleming Wyatt of Stevens Point, and has two children, Blanche and Benjamin, and the latter is now a first lieutenant in a machine gun company in France. Millie died March 4, 1918, the wife of Orval Ostrander. John died in the State of Idaho in 1911. The sixth in the family is Alfred E. Charles, who now lives in St. Louis, Missouri, enlisted in Company A of the Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry in the Spanish-American war, and was with his regiment in the Porto Rico campaign. He married Corinne Smith of Decatur, Illinois, and they have one child, Martin.

Mr. Alfred E. Redfield was born at Stevens Point April 24, 1869. He was reared and educated and spent practically all his life in his native city. Besides the advantages of the grammar and high schools he attended the Milwaukee Business College and as a trade he learned the business of car builder and was in the Wisconsin Central shops about four years. He then studied shorthand. For twenty years he has been in the same office at 317 Main Street, being with different firms, and is now connected with the law partnership of Fisher & Caslin.

In the meantime his energy has brought him connections and affiliations with various other lines of business. He owns a first class dairy farm adjoining the city limits of Stevens Point, and keeps a herd of pure bred Holsteins. He is also interested in the sand and gravel business with the Stevens Point Sand Company, which is developing extensive pits of fine gravel and sand at Rocky Run, three miles from Stevens Point. Now and for several years past Mr. Redfield has represented the Fifth Ward in the City Council and is president of the Board of Public Works. In politics he is a republican, and is chairman of the Republican County Committee.

In 1900 Mr. Redfield married Theresa Donnermeyer, of Stevens Point. They have six children, Raymond Edward, John Alden, Ben-



B. J. Walker.

jamin Franklin, Charles E., Otis and Robert. Mr. Redfield and family reside at 411 Dixon Street.

**BERT J. WALKER.** The qualities of adaptability, perseverance, good judgment and integrity have prevailed in the energetic life of Bert J. Walker, winning for him an enviable rank among the business, political and social elements of the village of Almond. As the proprietor of the department store conducted under the firm style of L. S. Walker Company, he directs the policies of one of the leading enterprises of this thriving community, but he is something more than a business man, as he has taken an intensely active interest in the welfare of the village, of which he may be said to be the father, and it was mainly through his efforts that it was incorporated.

Mr. Walker was born at Wautoma, the county seat of Waushara County, Wisconsin, in 1875, and is a son of Llewellyn S. and Narcissa (Barber) Walker, the former a native of Maine and the latter of the State of New York. Llewellyn S. Walker was a young man when he came to Wisconsin, and after residing at several other points established himself in a small mercantile business at Wautoma. That continued to be his place of residence and the scene of his business operations until 1880, in which year he moved with his family to Plainfield, Waushara County, and at once started a general store, in connection with which he engaged in the produce business. A man of marked ability as a merchant, he soon built his enterprise up to large proportions and began to enlarge his field. In 1894 or 1895 he established a like establishment at Hancock, and in 1901 a similar business was founded at Almond. With the assistance of his sons, Mr. Walker continued to manage and operate these ventures with continued and constantly growing success, and remained actively in the business harness up to the time of his death. In the various communities in which Mr. Walker operated he bore the reputation of being a man of the strictest integrity, shrewd and careful of his own interests, yet absolutely just in his dealings and ever unwilling to take advantage of the misfortunes of others. He was a veteran of the Civil war, having fought in a Wisconsin volunteer infantry regiment, and his record as a citizen was one which was commensurate with the other honorable features of his long and useful career. Mr. Walker was the father of five sons and four daughters, of whom all are living except one son and one daughter, the daughter having died aged fourteen years and the son at the age of thirty-nine years. Mr. Walker belonged to the Baptist Church and lived his faith. He was somewhat interested in fraternal work and belonged to the lodges of the Free and Accepted Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America.

Bert J. Walker was five years of age when the family removed from Wautoma to Plainfield, and in the public schools of the latter city he received his preliminary educational training, being a member of the first graduating class of the high school there. Subsequently he was sent to the University of Wisconsin, but after one year gave up his college career and returned to his home to enter upon business duties. His commercial training was secured in his father's store and under the elder man's teaching, and when the store was established at Almond he was ready to be placed in charge. This thriving little community has continued to be the scene of his busi-

ness operations to the present time, and here he has worked out a well-deserved success, being now the proprietor of a splendid department store which would do credit to a community much larger than the village of Almond. While he is the sole owner of this business, he continues to use the name of L. S. Walker Company, and has not deviated from the policies and the methods that made his father so highly esteemed in business circles and that attracted trade to the establishment during its early years. Like his father, he is a man of progressive methods, who finds that straightforward dealing wins and keeps customers.

Mr. Walker was married in 1897 to Miss Anna Maude Hamilton, who was born at Plainfield, Wisconsin, a daughter of Edwin N. Hamilton, and to this union there have been born two children: Harlan B. and Margaret R., the former a student at the University of Wisconsin, and the latter a student at Milwaukee. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. As a fraternalist Mr. Walker is affiliated with the local lodges of the Masons, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Equitable Fraternal Union. Largely through his efforts the village of Almond was incorporated, but he has not sought any public honors for himself. However, as a matter of discharging the duties of citizenship he has accepted the offices of treasurer of the school board and member of the village board, positions in which he has shown himself possessed of marked executive ability.

WALLIE B. CODDINGTON. One of the important movements and undertakings of modern times in Portage County in raising the general standard of productiveness here and placing the county in the forefront of Wisconsin agricultural areas has been the reclamation through drainage of thousands of acres of land that was formerly waste and swamp.

The interests by which Wallie B. Coddington is most conspicuously identified with the county is as representative of this drainage movement. Mr. Coddington has been a leader in drainage associations here and in the state, is president of the Wisconsin State Drainage Association, and his own farming, of an extensive and important character, is done on a large place redeemed by means of drainage and situated near Bancroft.

Mr. Coddington is a native of New Jersey, born April 14, 1870, but spent most of his life until he came to Wisconsin in Illinois. His parents were John A. and Anna (Van Ness) Coddington, both natives of New Jersey, the father born in 1840 and the mother in 1841. They married in that state and in 1879 brought their family west to Illinois and settled in Mason County. The father was a highly successful and prosperous farmer there, and had an estate of about 500 acres. He died in 1905 and the widowed mother now lives with her daughter, Mrs. Sadie Summers, on the old homestead. John A. Coddington was a republican in politics and in Illinois served as school director and as township supervisor. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. A record of their children's names is: Jennie, Lizzie, Phineas and Davis, all deceased; Wallie B.; Sadie; and Frank, deceased.

Wallie B. Coddington grew up in Mason County, Illinois, on a farm. He had the advantages of the public schools there, and he



learned farming under the careful and judicious eye of his father. In 1902, already a man of experience, progressive ideas and some capital, he came to Portage County for the purpose of organizing the Portage County Drainage District, a district comprising about 56,000 acres. Much of the great work undertaken sixteen years ago has been carried out successfully and it has given the county a splendid body of agricultural lands. Of this area Mr. Coddington personally owns about 1,000 acres, devoting it to high class agricultural production. He also owns property in the village of Plover, where he made his home until 1916, when he moved to his country home in Buena Vista Township, located in section 19.

He is still chairman of the Drainage District Commission of Portage County, and, as already noted, is president of the Wisconsin State Drainage Association. Mr. Coddington platted the village of Coddington in this county along the Soo line in 1910. He served as supervisor of the village of Plover and member of the county board and has also been a member of the school board at Plover. He is a republican and is affiliated with Chandlerville Lodge No. 741, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, with the Modern Woodmen of America, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Knights of Pythias.

November 25, 1892, Mr. Coddington married Miss Susie M. Boice, who was born in Delavan, Wisconsin, August 29, 1875, daughter of Charles H. and Jane (Seamen) Boice. Her parents were also New Jersey people and were early day settlers in Tazewell County, Illinois. They have lived for more than thirty years in the city of Delavan. Her father during active life was a miller. In politics he is a republican and he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Boice have six children, all living and married, named: Jane, Delia, Susie, Minnie, Nelia and Mildred.

Mr. and Mrs. Coddington had two children, May, who was born May 11, 1895, and died in infancy; and William H., born July 27, 1897. The son was educated in the schools of Plover Township and the Stevens Point High School, also the Stevens Point Business College, and has recently entered upon an energetic program as an independent farmer. He is a republican voter and is now Most Worthy Beaver of Lodge No. 420 of the Order of Beavers at Plover. March 20, 1917, he married Miss Gladys L. Newby. Mrs. William H. Coddington was born in Hull Township of this county December 25, 1897, daughter of William J. and Ollie (White) Newby, who now reside in Plover village.

FRANK MCGOWN is another of the sons of John McGown, referred to on other pages, and has for twenty years or more been one of the substantial factors in the life and affairs of Plover Township, being a capable carpenter and a practical farmer, and with other interests now one of the rural mail carriers.

Mr. McGown was born on the old homestead in Plover Township August 20, 1870. After a public school education he learned the trade of carpenter and has made that trade a service of usefulness to others and also to himself as a farmer, since he has the skill to construct and repair all his buildings. His father gave him the forty acres where he now lives, and later he bought another forty acres, giving him a well balanced and improved farm of eighty acres, part of which was cleared by his own hands. Mr. McGown has constructed

good and substantial buildings and is prospering as a general farmer and stock raiser. He keeps a dairy. For about eight years he has been a substitute rural mail carrier, and in 1918 was appointed to full charge of route No. 2 out of Plover.

Mr. McGown votes the prohibition ticket as a rule in politics, but when prohibition is not an issue casts his ballot independently. He has served as a member of the school board and for about seven years has been clerk of the local camp of the Modern Woodmen of America.

In 1894 he married Miss Jennie Welch, of Plover Township. Mrs. McGown was born in Michigan in 1873. Her father died in that state, and her mother, Mrs. W. S. Parsons, now of Plover village, brought the family to Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. McGown have three children, all living, named Harold A., Lawrence E. and Homer E.

GEORGE H. GROVER has had an active life and a successful one identified with the business of farming and stock husbandry in Portage County. He manages his farm with the capability of the real agriculturist and business man, and is one of those who contributes to the prestige of Portage County as a dairy center.

Mr. Grover was born in Portage County September 7, 1871. His father, William Henry Grover, now deceased, was born in New York State in 1842, and was an early settler in Plover, Portage County. He followed the river in connection with the logging industry until 1881, when he retired to his farm. He married Candes Hale, who was born in New York State May 7, 1843, and is also deceased.

George H. Grover was reared and educated in Portage County and from early manhood has given the best of his energies and labors to his farm. His place is in section 14 and his postoffice is Junction City. He specializes in milk production and has about eighteen head of high class milch cows. Mr. Grover is a republican in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He married Miss Esther Topping, who was born at Stevens Point December 7, 1874, and is member of one of the old and well known families of this county. They have a family of seven children: Rodney, born in 1894 and a resident of Junction City; Lawrence, born June 9, 1896; Glen, born in 1904, now in Milwaukee; Keith, deceased; Carrol; Beatrice, born in 1906, and Wallace G., born in 1908.

JOHN A. BERRY. At no time in history has an acre of land meant so much to the welfare and sustenance of the world as at present. One of the men of Buena Vista Township who control and direct the operation of a large number of acres, constituting a highly developed and improved farm, is John A. Berry, a native of that township and a lifelong resident of the county.

His own career has been in the nature of a continuation of the work and experience accomplished by his honored father, the late Manuel Berry, who was one of the finest types of rugged pioneers in the history of Wisconsin Territory and State. It will serve to interpret to the present generation some of the incidents of pioneer days and also the character of the men who contended with those early circumstances to review the salient experiences and records of Manuel Berry and his family. He was born at Bethlehem, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, January 28, 1821. For all the dangers he went through, the hardships he surpassed, and other difficulties and

privations, he lived more than three quarters of a century, and died at his home in Buena Vista Township April 7, 1898. He stood six feet in height, was a giant in strength and wonderfully agile and possessed a maximum of physical and moral courage. At that he was about the smallest of his family, his brothers surpassing him in size. His parents were Andrew and Hannah (Eshenbach) Berry, who were born in Philadelphia, the former November 27, 1790, and the latter November 27, 1780. The Eshenbach family was established in this country by Andrew Eshenbach, who died in Pennsylvania before the Revolution. His son Andrew was a Revolutionary soldier and died at the very advanced age of ninety-nine years, nine months, nine days.

Andrew Berry, founder of the Berry family in America, was born of German ancestry and probably in a German province and came to America with William Penn. He personally witnessed the treaty made by Penn with the Indians. At Philadelphia he erected a large tannery and was a wealthy man. His son, also named Andrew, succeeded to the tanning business and continued it during the Revolutionary war. During that war he contributed large sums of money for the support of the Continental Army and he also bore arms in the struggle. He went so far in his patriotic endeavors as to mortgage his property, and when the note fell due he had to turn over all his assets to his creditors. While carrying supplies to the soldiers at the battle of Brandywine he was severely wounded in the leg. He lived through the Revolution and later participated in the War of 1812, where his old wound broke out afresh with erysipelas and he died soon after his return to his home in Luzerne County. The maiden name of his wife was Susanna Frink. They had four children, named John, Andrew, Polly and Katy.

Andrew Berry, grandfather of John A. Berry, was a well known lumberman of Luzerne County and also owned land in Butler County. This property was subsequently swept away by speculations, and among the earliest pioneers he came to Buena Vista, Wisconsin, and located on land afterwards owned by his son Manuel. He died there about 1862, survived some years by his wife. Both are now at rest in the cemetery at Liberty Corners. Their children were: Benjamin, who died at Wausau, Wisconsin, in 1880 and is remembered by some of the old timers because of his phenomenal strength and giant stature; Robert, who became an engine builder and is supposed to have been murdered while installing an engine on a steamboat at Vicksburg, Mississippi; John, who was a soldier in the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry and died in 1890; Andrew, who for many years was a farmer in Buena Vista Township; Mary, who married a veteran of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry; Sarah, who married Edward Hugo, who was also in the Eighteenth Wisconsin Regiment and died in the army; Frank S., who was a Union soldier and also came to Wisconsin; and Manuel.

Manuel Berry received his early education in Butler County, Pennsylvania. He walked five miles to the subscription district school. At the age of sixteen he began working for his father and had a thorough experience in the lumber woods of Pennsylvania several winters. It was in April, 1843, at the age of twenty-two, that he and his brother came to Wisconsin. They made the journey by boat down the Ohio and up the Mississippi as far as Galena, Illinois, and from there

walked overland to Wausau, Wisconsin. During the next twelve years Manuel Berry exerted his physical strength and experience in many of the lumber camps of Wisconsin. Being here in territorial times, when there were few well settled counties anywhere in Wisconsin, he had many experiences with the Indians. On the whole his relations with the red men were pleasant and he did much trading with them. Once the Indians killed two yoke of oxen belonging to him. One of his trading adventures occurred near Merrill, Wisconsin. He had exchanged provisions for a large number of buckskins. The pile of skins lay on the ground and were suddenly seized by a young Indian who tried to escape with them. Mr. Berry pursued, overtook the thief, and knocked him down. In the meantime another Indian had followed and with a heavy knife thrust at Mr. Berry and severely wounded him above the eye. But he turned quickly and with a tremendous blow laid out his second assailant.

At another time he agreed to meet an Indian chief and his followers near Merrill and exchange provisions for any wares the Indians had to trade. He took with him besides money a small keg and a barrel of whiskey. The barrel he hid a short distance away. This precaution he took because he feared the Indians might get well intoxicated and get beyond his control. He gave them all a small quantity of liquor from the keg, but they began clamoring for more and in the face of threatened danger Mr. Berry's two companions deserted him and left him alone with the red men. He was suddenly seized and some of the party made away with the keg of whiskey, but he broke loose and seizing a large club went in pursuit and soon had several of the red men stretched on the ground. The chief prevailed upon his followers to desist and they were not loth to obey when they realized what a terrible fighter they had to contend with. That ended the trouble and Mr. Berry carried out the transaction, paying the Indians in cash and mackinaw blankets for their goods.

It was in the spring of 1855 that Manuel Berry and his brother became permanent settlers in Buena Vista Township. He bought 160 acres of land, made a clearing in the midst of the forest, constructed a log house and in the same year brought his bride to this dwelling. Her maiden name was Miss Katherine Johnson. She was born in Sweden November 25, 1835. She died in Portage County in 1907. In the fall of 1851 she came to the United States with her parents, John and Breta Johnson. The Johnson family located in Waupaca County, Wisconsin, but five years later removed to Minnesota and were living near London in that state when the terrible Indian massacre occurred, from which they all narrowly escaped. John Johnson died in Minnesota in January, 1891, at the age of eighty-seven, and the mother at eighty-three. John and Breta Johnson had the following children: Angeline, who married a brother of Manuel Berry; Katherine, wife of Manuel Berry; Annie, who married Anton Knobloch, a Minnesota banker; John, who was a farmer in Minnesota; George, who married Annie Anderson; Marcus, who served as a revenue collector under President Harrison; Peter, who lives at Burbank, Minnesota.

Manuel Berry and wife had three children: Annie, who married George Clarke, a Buena Vista farmer; John A.; and Edward F., who was born in Buena Vista Township September 14, 1864, and acquired the old homestead farm.

Manuel Berry was a republican in politics, and for a number of years served as township supervisor. He was always active in the Lutheran Church, and his wife was a member of the same church until her later years when she joined the Methodist Episcopal denomination. Manuel Berry was a man of great strength of character and intellect as well as physical powers. He was a great Bible student and able to quote scripture and could discuss intelligently many of the profoundest questions of human life and experience.

Mr. John A. Berry was born in Buena Vista Township August 11, 1858. He grew up on the homestead, had a public school education, and for the past forty years has been industriously engaged in farming. His farm is one of the most extensive in Buena Vista Township, comprising 452 acres. Mr. Berry has been a prominent figure in public affairs, being under sheriff of the county for years and sheriff from 1909 to 1910. For the past nine years he has filled the office of chairman of the township board. He is an ardent Republican, and fraternally is affiliated with Plover Lodge No. 76, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, having been identified with that order for twenty-five years. For the past five years he has also been a member of Plover Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Berry has one son, Manuel, who assists him in handling the large farm. This son is also affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Plover.

HARRY THOMAS RAVLIN. A bright, newsy little sheet that finds favor with the newspaper readers of Rosholt and Portage County generally is the Rosholt Journal, of which Harry Thomas Ravlin is owner, manager and editor. A practical printer and a good business man, Mr. Ravlin is making a success of the Journal and gives the people a newspaper that deserves to be well supported.

Harry Thomas Ravlin was born at Chicago, Illinois, August 28, 1891. His parents were Harry Hayden and Minnie L. (Holland) Ravlin. The mother died in the family home at Chicago in 1893. There were two children in the family: Harry Thomas and Horace Forest, the latter of whom died while young. The father of Mr. Ravlin was born at Chicago and there has followed his trade of stationary engineer.

After completing the public school course Mr. Ravlin learned the printing business, and although he has devoted time and attention to other vocations his natural inclination has usually led him back to "types and presses," the lure of which every true newspaper man acknowledges. In 1913 Mr. Ravlin came to Wisconsin from Chicago, and took charge of the telephone company operating at Nelsonville in Portage County, where he remained for several years and then came to Rosholt and for two months worked on the Rosholt Journal and then purchased it from the former proprietor, O. F. Meyer.

The Rosholt Journal was established in 1912 and has been issued ever since, a weekly paper, and prior to Mr. Ravlin's ownership it was a two-page issue. In line with many other improvements Mr. Ravlin enlarged it to four pages, and with many interesting features added, has a newspaper that is highly creditable to its owner and editor and to the village.

Mr. Ravlin was married in 1911 to Miss Mattie B. Loberg, who is the adopted daughter of Antone Loberg, residing near Amherst,

Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Ravlin have two children: Forest Hayden Anthony and Jean.

Mr. Ravlin is a shareholder in the Co-operative Publishing Company of Chicago, and also in the Chicago Security Bond Company. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and is identified fraternally with several well known organizations.

**WILL WELLER.** A faithful historian is gratified when occasion presents itself to bring forward old pioneer names in any section, for they deserve preservation in permanent form. The early settlers who came to Portage County, Wisconsin, shortly after the admission of this state to the Union found hard conditions. They faced many hardships and endured privations in order to blaze a path for future generations, and when one notes what changes have been wrought within sixty years, what their initial efforts started, a still greater appreciation is aroused. Among the early names in Portage County those of Weller and Post continue honorably represented here, and the leading merchant at Amherst, Will Weller, is a representative of both families.

Will Weller was born in Amherst Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, in 1874. His parents were Alonzo and Martha (Post) Weller, both of whom were born in the State of New York. The maternal grandparents, Peter and Mary Post, came to this county in 1855, when their daughter Martha was fourteen years old. They resided in this county for some years, Mr. Post engaging in farming, but their last years were spent in Iowa.

Alonzo Weller was a young man when he came to the pineries of Wisconsin and prior to the outbreak of the Civil war he worked in lumber camps in the northern part of the state. Early in the war, however, he went to Beloit and there enlisted in what subsequently won fame as the "Iron Brigade," the Sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served 2½ years as a member of Company G in that organization. He returned then to Wisconsin and for some time worked on the river and made his home at Stevens Point. Later Mr. Weller invested in land in Amherst Township, Portage County, and continued his farming operations during the rest of his active life. He died on his farm in 1910 and was survived by his wife but five years. They had three children: Charles, Will and May. The parents were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he belonged to the Grand Army of the Republic.

Will Weller attended the public schools at Amherst until he was eighteen years of age and by that time had decided upon merchandising as a vocation. With this end in view he became a clerk in the mercantile establishment of C. N. Fenton at Amherst, with whom he continued in that capacity until 1909, when he bought the store of Mr. Fenton and has continued the business ever since, occupying the old quarters until 1914, when he came to his present excellent location. He conducts a general store, which includes many separate departments of choice merchandise, and the volume of the business he does annually compares very favorably with any other enterprises outside of a city in the county. As a business man he commands the respect of those with whom he has dealings, while in his social relations in the community he is held in esteem. Mr. Weller has never been a politician in the general sense of that word, but he has always

been an active and interested citizen. He has passed his life at Amherst and, in a way, has grown with the growth of the village, and ever through his influence as far as possible has worked for her betterment.

Mr. Weller was married in 1900 to Miss Stella Starks, who was born at Amherst, Wisconsin, and is a daughter of Edgar Starks. Mr. and Mrs. Weller have three sons: Edgar, George and Delbert, all of whom are having educational advantages, Mr. Weller being particularly interested in educational matters. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal Church and do their part in its different fields of benevolence. The only fraternal organization to which Mr. Weller belongs is the Order of Modern Woodmen.

**OLE J. MALLUM.** In the middle and late '70s Wisconsin became the home of many strong and sturdy men from Norway in search of more and better opportunities than their northern land afforded them. This was a welcomed invasion, for these men came as home-seekers and brought with them their industrious habits, their sound ideas of thrift, and a certain religious sentiment that may be noted in every Norwegian settlement.

Forty-seven years have passed since Ole J. Mallum left Norway, the only one of his father's family of five children to venture so far, and came to the United States and later reached Portage County, Wisconsin. He was born in Lille Hammer, July 28, 1851. His parents were John and Jane (Olson) Mallum, who are still dear memories to their son although thirty years have rolled by since he has been in communication with them. The father was a farmer and his five sons followed in his footsteps, Ole J. in Wisconsin, and Simon, Antone, John and Edward in Norway.

During his first years in Wisconsin Mr. Mallum found plenty of work, the lumber camps and sawmills even then calling for strong workmen, and all the early settlers needing help in the clearing operations. With the intention of finally becoming a landowner with the best of them, Mr. Mallum was careful in saving and kept watching for well located land that he could homestead as soon as conditions were satisfactory. This land he found in Alban Township, Portage County, and in 1878 he homesteaded a part of his 160 acres, and bought the rest, and here he has resided ever since. In the year preceding he had married and he and wife settled on the wild, pioneer farm, facing many hardships and deprivations and for some years accommodated themselves to a primitive mode of living. Each year afterward, however, showed a great advance and when Mr. Mallum started to make permanent improvements he erected not only substantial but attractive and comfortable buildings. At present he has seventy-five acres under cultivation but operates mainly as a stock and dairy man, paying particular attention to the dairying industry. He has always been a hard-working man, careful and methodical, and is numbered with the prosperous agriculturists of this part of Portage County.

Mr. Mallum was married in 1877 to Miss Nellie Halvorson, who was born in Norway and was brought to Portage County, Wisconsin, by her parents, who became farming people in New Hope Township. They are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Mallum have had nine children, namely: Ida, who married Frank Manning; Mabel, who married John Simonis of Galloway; Nora, whose married name is Simonis,

lives at Rosholt; Nellie, whose married name is Marpen, lives at Parshall, North Dakota; Murna, who lives at home; William, who is married, has purchased his father's farm; Clara, who married Harald Haraldson and is now residing at Galloway; James, who died in active service in France; and Myron, who died young. Mr. Mallum has given his children educational advantages and they have become useful and respected members of society and have friends wherever their homes are now situated.

Mr Mallum has always taken a good citizen's interest in local politics and has probably served in every school office in the township and with the result that the public schools here are well conducted and well taught, which unfortunately is not the case in those townships where the leading men of the districts take no personal interest in the matter. Mr. Mallum and his family are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran Church, one of the oldest religious organizations in Alban Township.

**WILLIAM HENRY TUNKS.** For forty years William Henry Tunks has been steadily at work in one locality and on one farm, planning, directing and executing those varied details which constitute real achievement in agriculture. A great many people outside of Portage County are familiar with "Tunks Place," as his farm is known. Mr. Tunks in recent years has laid the nucleus and assembled one of the best herds of Holstein cattle in this section of the state. His herd is headed by a two year old bull weighing 1600 pounds and obtained from the nationally known herd of John Erickson of Waupaca. Erickson's herd bull is valued at \$15,000.

Mr. Tunks spent most of his life in Portage County. He was born at Omro in Winnebago County, this state, October 19, 1855, son of William and Mercy Ann (Day) Tunks. His parents were both born in Canada, his father in 1831 and his mother in 1833. They married in that country and in 1852 located at Omro, Wisconsin. In the fall of 1856 they settled in Belmont Township. As pioneers here they acquired forty acres of Government land. Later William Tunks sold that, rented for a time, bought and sold several properties, and in 1863 left his home and family to enlist in the Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry, Company C. He was in service as a Union soldier until the close of the war. On his return he lived one summer on the farm in Belmont Township now owned by Peter Rasmussen, and the next year bought a farm of eighty acres a mile and a quarter from "Tunks Place." While living there the mother died in 1871. William Tunks afterwards sold that property and moved to eighty acres just across the road from the home of his son William H., and finally retired and spent his last years in the Soldiers Home in Waupaca County, where he died in 1914. He was an active republican in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The children of his first wife were: Martha Jane, who died at Omro aged two years; William Henry; Abbie Melissa, who died at the age of nine years; Frank, who lives near Menominee, Wisconsin; Ida, wife of Robert Lincoln and living at Bayard, Nebraska; Richard, who died when one year old; and Mary, who died in infancy at the death of her mother. For his second wife William Tunks married Rebecca Lincoln, a sister of Robert Lincoln. By that union there were four children, Everett, Maud, Ellery and May.



William H. Tunks spent most of his early life in Belmont Township and attended the public schools there. He had his experience as a worker in the woods and on the river, but finally applied all his energies to farming. In 1877 he bought sixty acres included in his present farm and has occupied it steadily since the spring of 1878. His farm now comprises 120 acres and he has done much of the actual work of construction on some of its substantial buildings. Mr. Tunks took up the breeding of thoroughbred Holsteins in 1912, and his herd now comprises twenty-six head. He is an active and interested member of the Holstein-Friesian Association of America and also of the state and county associations of that well known organization of breeders. In politics he has supported both the republican and prohibition parties. He served as side supervisor, treasurer and assessor of Belmont Township.

December 23, 1876, Mr. Tunks married Annette Lincoln, a sister of Robert Lincoln, previously mentioned. To their marriage were born five children, Warren, Garfield, Milton, Lula and Lena. Garfield, Milton and Lula are all at home. Warren is a farmer in North Dakota, and by his marriage to Mabel McClellan has one child, Mary Ann. Lena is the wife of Claud Collier, of Almond Township. The mother of these children died in 1904. In 1906 Mr. Tunks married Mrs. Jennie Wolfe Mead, widow of Allen Mead. Mrs. Tunks by her first husband had five children: Frank, who is now a soldier in Camp Grant; John, who died October 8, 1918, in the service of the United States Army; Dewey; Mildred and Letha, both at home, the former a teacher by profession.

**ALFRED TAYLOR BACON.** Of the follower of any of the important trades or vocations no better recommendation is required than the credit of long employment under a reliable management. When Alfred Taylor Bacon was seventeen years of age opportunity knocked at his door in the guise of a minor position with the Wisconsin Central Railroad. Some time before he had gone out to seek a chance of livelihood, for he was an independent youth who desired to make his own way and the necessity arose for the conversion of his young strength into the wherewithal of existence. Sufficient that he was industrious and faithful, and that he recognized the advantage of association with an industrial institution which offered many avenues of advancement to the ambitious and deserving. From that time forward his advancement was steady and continuous until in 1898 he was given his first chance as an engineer, and for some years past he has been a passenger engineer with a regular run between Fond du Lac and Stevens Point.

Mr. Bacon was born at Escanaba, Michigan, March 31, 1868, a son of William B. and Amanda (Buck) Bacon. His father was born in Hannibal, New York, August 8, 1827, and his mother in Ohio, June 7, 1833, and both came single to Wisconsin, being married at Saint Marie, Marquette County, January 8, 1852. They then went to Escanaba, where Mr. Bacon was superintendent of bridges and building for the Northwestern Railroad, and about 1870 going to Kenosha, where they remained only a short time. Their next place of residence was Hokah, Houston County, Minnesota, and in 1878 they removed to Winnebago County, Minnesota, where they lived for several years. Subsequently they came to Portage County, Wisconsin, Mrs. Bacon

dying at Stevens Point in 1885, while Mr. Bacon in his declining years returned to Escanaba, Michigan, and there passed away in November, 1909. He was a republican, a Free Mason and an Odd Fellow, and he and Mrs. Bacon were members of the Baptist Church. They were the parents of six children: Mary, Minnie, Jessie, Bertha, Alfred T. and Louise, of whom Mary, Bertha and Louise are now deceased.

Alfred Taylor Bacon attended the schools of Minnesota and Wisconsin until he was about thirteen years of age, at which time he took up his residence at Stevens Point in the home of his brother-in-law, George W. Martin, and attended the public school. Subsequently he found employment in a box factory and also did stair work, but at seventeen years of age became connected with railroading. His first position was a humble one, consisting of watching engines, but soon he was given the post of call boy, and long before his majority began firing in the Stevens Point yards. Later he fired a heater boiler at the round house, and when he had attained his majority was given a position as a locomotive fireman. In 1898 he was promoted to engineer, and later was made a passenger engineer, with his present run. Mr. Bacon is considered one of his company's reliable and skilled engineers and one who can be depended upon in an emergency. He is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and of Evergreen Lodge No. 93, Free and Accepted Masons. Politically he is a republican.

Mr. Bacon was married January 28, 1890, to Miss Beatrice Bailey, who was born at Arlington, Massachusetts, August 10, 1860, a daughter of George W. and Sarah Frances (Brooks) Bailey. Her grandfather, James A. Bailey, was the father of six sons, all of whom learned the trade of sawmaker. George W. Bailey was born at West Cambridge, Massachusetts, January 11, 1844, and was married in that state, at Boston, November 14, 1866, to Sarah Frances Brooks, who was born at Marlboro, New Hampshire, December 2, 1846. Like his brothers, he learned the trade of sawmaker, and at Arlington, Massachusetts, his father, in company with a Mr. Griffith, had the first saw factory in the United States, under the firm style of Welch & Griffith, James A. Bailey later owning this factory. In 1871 the parents of Mrs. Bacon came to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, at which point Mr. Bailey saw his first saw run, and there was engaged in business as a manufacturer and repairer of that useful tool in partnership with a Mr. Tilton. In July, 1876, he came to Stevens Point, where he was engaged for some years as a maker and repairer, also being agent for the Henry Disston Saw Company, but in the evening of life went to Bellingham, Washington, where he died May 8, 1906. He was a republican in politics, and his faith was that of the Unitarian Church. Mrs. Bailey was formerly a Universalist, but now belongs to the Episcopal Church and resides at Stevens Point with her children. The Bailey children were ten in number, as follows: Florette Eliza; Beatrice; Edna; Louise, who died January 7, 1880; Clara Esther; George Henry, who died July 27, 1916; Grace; Jennie; Helen; and Sarah Frances, who died January 13, 1896.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bacon there have been born the following children: Earl, who died in infancy; Gladys Bertha, in the office of Mrs. W. B. Buckingham; Ruth, who died in infancy; Beatrice M., a graduate of the Stevens Point High School, class of 1916, and a graduate from the Normal in June, 1918; Alfred George, a member of the

sophomore class at the high school; and Trevor Wilbur and Frances Jane, who are attending the graded schools. On January 25, 1915, Mr. and Mrs. Bacon celebrated their silver wedding anniversary, at which time their children and their numerous friends in Stevens Point and other cities attended the festivities to give best wishes and congratulations to the couple who had rounded out a quarter of a century as happy life partners. Mrs. Bacon was educated in the old White School, which her husband also attended, and is a member of the White School Association. She graduated in 1887 from the Stevens Point High School, and took a position as bookkeeper in a local concern which she retained until the time of her marriage. She and her daughter belong to the same high school alumni, and Mrs. Bacon is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and of the Grand International Auxiliary of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. The pleasant family home is situated at No. 342 Fremont Street.

JAY S. BAILEY became a self supporting worker when only thirteen years of age. Life has offered him a great variety of experience. He is a native of Wisconsin, has been in the far Northwest, has run the rivers and done the varied work of lumber camps, but for about twenty years has been steadily and progressively engaged in the business of farming and stock raising. His farm in Belmont Township shows evidence of his hard work and ability as a manager, and his name may properly be placed among the successful and sturdy sons of the soil in this county.

He was born in Jefferson County, in the Township of Hebron, August 24, 1865, a son of Simon W. and Emma (Sargent) Bailey. His father was a Union soldier during the Civil war. Born in Essex County, New York, in 1840, he came to Wisconsin with his parents, Samuel and Emma (Wright) Bailey, when he was eight years old. Later he lived in Independence, Iowa, and subsequently established a home in Waupaca. Samuel Bailey and wife both died in 1893, the former at the age of eighty-eight and the latter at seventy-eight. Simon W. Bailey enlisted in 1861 in the First Wisconsin Cavalry, and was with that gallant regiment until after the close of the war. It was the First Wisconsin Cavalry which participated in the pursuit and capture of Jefferson Davis, the deposed president of the Confederacy. Simon Bailey was a marble cutter by trade and established the first shop of that kind at Waupaca in 1875. Later he removed to Pittsville in Wood County, and while living there was accidentally shot and killed in 1892, at the age of fifty-two. His first wife, Emma Sargent, who was born in Wisconsin May 26, 1844, died at Hebron October 22, 1874. They were married at Hebron in 1863 and had three children: Jay S. and a twin that died in infancy, and Guy, who died at the age of three years. In 1876 Simon Bailey married Jane Smith, and they had two children, Jennie and Simon. Simon Bailey was an independent voter.

Mr. Jay S. Bailey was about ten years old when his father moved to Waupaca and he received much of his education there. At the age of thirteen he went to work as a farm laborer and the next year he spent as a boy assistant in a cook shanty in the lumber woods at wages of eight dollars a month. The following spring he was permitted to work on a drive in Wood County for the Lyman Lumber Company, and he was an active river man for seven consecutive springs. For

three years he was in Washington and Oregon and during that time was connected with a Government surveying party at the time the international boundary line between the United States and Canada was permanently settled. For a time Mr. Bailey was in the potato business at Waupaca.

In 1898 Mr. Bailey bought eighty acres of land in Belmont Township, and has since added another forty acres. When he bought the land only six acres had been cleared but he now has eighty acres under cultivation and has improved the farm with good buildings. He has specialized in the breeding of pure bred Holstein cattle.

November 27, 1892, Mr. Bailey married Miss Elizabeth Carrie Simonson. She was born at Scandinavia in Waupaca County in 1868, a daughter of Andrew and Annie Simonson, early settlers of Waupaca County. Her mother died many years ago and her father passed away in 1913, at the age of eighty-seven.

Mr. and Mrs. Bailey have had five children. Sadie, the oldest, was born in 1893, and died December 6, 1894. Lloyd, the second in age, was born June 10, 1895, was educated in the Portage County public schools and on November 27, 1915, on the anniversary of his parents' marriage, he wedded Miss Ida Fessman, and they have one child, Lois Lydia, born September 3, 1917. Agnes, born January 11, 1898, married December 8, 1917, Arnold Yohn. The fourth in the family, Mabel, was born October 20, 1904, and died June 22, 1905. The youngest is Arthur, born December 23, 1907.

DAVID H. HOWE. A resident of Portage County almost forty years, David H. Howe had his permanent home in Stevens Point nearly all these years and here his industry has borne fruit and his name is one that is spoken with honor and respect. He and his wife are one of the fine old couples of the county, and he has already lived to celebrate his eightieth birthday.

Mr. Howe was born in Norwich, Vermont, August 8, 1835, son of Joseph and Hannah Maria (Miles) Howe. Both parents were natives of Vermont, and from that state they moved to St. Lawrence County, New York, where the mother died in 1865, at the age of sixty-six. The father afterwards moved out to Michigan, where he died in 1872.

David H. Howe was reared and educated in Vermont, and went to New York State when about eighteen years of age. He married there Matilda Emlau. They became the parents of three children, Ella, Elizabeth and William. Ella married Martin Delehanty and is the mother of four children, Ella, Margaret, Edward and Albert. The daughter Elizabeth married George Yorton, proprietor of a hotel at Plover, Wisconsin, and their children are: Della, wife of John Finch, of Stevens Point; Ruby, wife of Fayette Skinner, a postal clerk; and Isabel, wife of Henry Clark, a butter and cheese maker at Reedsburg, Wisconsin. Mr. Howe's son, William, is a farmer in Plover Township.

The mother of these children died in January, 1872, in the State of Michigan. In October, 1872, Mr. Howe married Sarah Goodale Clark, widow of Ernest Clark. She was born in St. Lawrence County, New York, in 1845, daughter of John G. and Amanda M. (Britton) Goodale, both of whom were natives of Vermont and died in St. Lawrence County, New York.

MIR. AND MRS. DAVID H. HOWE



Mr. and Mrs. Howe lived in Michigan one year after their marriage and then came to Wisconsin, locating in Milwaukee, where Mr. Howe followed his trade as a carpenter. In 1881 he came to Stevens Point, where he has had his home steadily ever since and where he followed his trade as a competent and reliable workman until he gave up his duties and is now enjoying retired life. Mr. Howe is a republican voter and a member of the Episcopal Church.

He is an honored survivor of the great War of the Rebellion. He enlisted from New York State in 1861 in Company K of the New York Infantry. He was in the army three years and three months. At first his regiment was in some of the great campaigns of Virginia and his service was marked by two of the greatest battles of the war in that part of the country, Antietam and Gettysburg. Later he was attached to the armies in Eastern Tennessee and Northern Georgia under Sherman, and in the battle of Lookout Mountain, when he and his comrades were fighting above the clouds, he was seriously wounded, being shot through the left hip. Mr. Howe has always kept up fraternal relations with old comrades as a member of the Grand Army Post at Plover. He and his wife reside in a comfortable home at 303 Center Avenue in Stevens Point.

They have three daughters, Sarah, Hattie and Cora. Sarah is the wife of Gustav Swanson, and their children are Cleo, Joyce and Caroline. Hattie married Edgar Loomis, of Newell, Iowa, and their family consists of Orabelle, Howard, Lillian, Harold and Harlan. The daughter Cora married Gus Bean and they have no children.

**BENJAMIN ANDERSON.** One of the model farms of New Hope Township has been the home of Benjamin Anderson since birth, there he grew to manhood, and for more than a quarter of a century has used his sturdy energy and intelligent efforts in directing the farm as his main business in life, and it has well repaid all the labor bestowed upon it. Mr. Anderson is one of the very influential men of his community. He helped organize and is still connected with the Farmers Butter and Cheese Association, and is serving as a director in the New Hope Norwegian Fire Insurance Company, a concern in which his father had an active part in the organization.

On his present farm, though at the time it was a tract of land vastly different in state of improvement and cultivation, Benjamin Anderson was born December 4, 1860, a son of Andrew and Guri (Anderson) Grothe. Both parents were natives of Norway, where they married, and in about 1857 came to America, locating on the land where their son Benjamin was born. The father acquired forty acres from the Government and subsequently bought adjoining land until he had a farm of 120 acres. He cleared much of it, erected the first buildings, but his main business was not so much farming as it was in following his trade as a blacksmith. He learned the blacksmith's trade in Norway and on coming to Portage County erected a small shop on his farm. This shop supplied a service greatly needed in that community. The farmers came for miles around bringing their plows and other implements to be repaired and their horses to be shod, and the reliable workmanship and genial personality of Andrew Grothe made his shop a landmark in the community. The father lived there until his death in 1898. His widow is now living in Dunn County, Wisconsin, with a daughter. In the family were

seven children: Christina; Ole and Andrew, both deceased; Gusta; Carrie; Benjamin; and Anna.

Benjamin Anderson while living at home went back and forth to the country schools in his neighborhood, and after leaving school he went to work on the farm, which he has owned since 1893. He has most of the 120 acres under cultivation and has erected all of the present buildings on the farm.

In 1893 Mr. Anderson married Miss Emma Loberg. She was born on the old farm of her father in Amherst Township, daughter of Johan N. Loberg, elsewhere mentioned in this publication. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are the parents of ten children: Gladys A. I.; Anna Josephine, who died in infancy; Alma, Edna, John Gerhard, Lillian, Anton, Carl, Herbert and Richard. All the living children are still around the home and constitute a lively group of young people, their lives showing much promise of good work and usefulness in the world. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are members of the New Hope Presbyterian Church.

MICHAEL O'KEEFE not only represents one of the notable sturdy American families of Irish descent in Portage County but is a man of distinction in his business affairs as a farmer, having one of the best stock farms in Stockton Township.

This fine farm, which in so many ways represents his own improvements and efficient ideas, is the place where he was born February 14, 1872. He is a son of two honored and respected old time citizens of Portage County, Patrick and Mary (Toomy) O'Keefe. His parents were both born in Ireland. His father was born in County Cork May 7, 1825, while his mother was born in County Kerry June 11, 1830. They came to America when young, were married at Alton, Illinois, November 23, 1854, and soon afterward came to Wisconsin, after a brief sojourn in Milwaukee locating in Stevens Point in 1855. Patrick O'Keefe was a man of sturdy mold and earned a living as a woods worker for several years. In 1858 he bought the raw tract of land comprising 200 acres which he subsequently cleared and cultivated and developed as the farm now owned and occupied by his son Michael. After gaining an ample competence from his labors he lived there in contentment and peace until death, February 11, 1898. His good wife survived him a little more than a year, passing away May 29, 1899. Both were faithful members of the Catholic Church.

The record of their children, eleven in number, is worthy of perpetuation. Patrick, the oldest, was born November 23, 1855, is a resident of Brown County, Wisconsin, and by his marriage to Mary O'Keefe had fourteen children, the seven still living being Mary, Raymond, David, Dominic, Isabel, Frances and Catherine. Ellen, the second of the family, born May 7, 1858, is the widow of Dominic Dwyer, and her children were Mary, Grace and Agnes, the last now deceased. Mary, born October 11, 1860, is the wife of Michael Doyle, and their children are Frank, Bessie, Raymond, Helen, Jane, Margaret, Michael and Mary. Hannah, who was born February 15, 1862, died October 25, 1893, wife of Joseph Leonard, of Stevens Point. William, born April 15, 1863, is a Stockton Township farmer and elsewhere referred to. John, born June 8, 1865, first married Mathilda Conniff, the one child of their union, Isabel, being deceased,

and he married for his second wife Anastasia O'Keefe, but has no children by that union. Honora, seventh in the family, was born May 2, 1868, and died May 4, 1869. David, born January 4, 1870, died April 29, 1900, when his brilliant talents as a lawyer were just beginning to bear fruit. He was a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and of the law department of the University of Wisconsin, and also attended law courses at Washington, D. C. For a time he was in the office of Cates, Jones & Sanborn of Stevens Point, but a year later moved to Ashland, Wisconsin, where he practiced as a member of the firm O'Keefe, Dufer & O'Keefe, and later of Sanborn, Dufer & O'Keefe. While at Ashland he was elected district attorney and was filling that office at the time of his death. He was the eighth of the family, while Mr. Michael O'Keefe is the ninth. The tenth is James, who was born December 10, 1875, and died July 13, 1876. The youngest, Catherine, born February 7, 1877, became a sister in the Order of the Good Shepherd and died in France September 26, 1902.

Practically all his life Michael O'Keefe has lived on the old homestead farm. He gained his education in the public schools and after reaching manhood he took charge of the homestead and is now owner of the 200 acres, and has done much to arrange and develop its resources for his special purposes as a stockman. For twenty years his farm has been noted among stockmen as a place for the breeding of high grade percheron horses and thoroughbred Poland China hogs. He has also done much with his herd of Jersey cattle. It will be recalled that his son Leonard entered a pure bred Jersey calf in the Stevens Point Fair as a member of the Portage County Calf Club, and with seventeen entries in the competition won second prize. The same calf won second premium as a high grade Jersey at the Wisconsin State Fair among the numerous contestants from the Boys and Girls Clubs in 1916. The newspapers gave much attention to this Jersey heifer, which bore the name Jane Leonard.

Mr. O'Keefe is a man of affairs in the county, and has done much to develop its substantial interests. For about eighteen years he was president of the Arnot Creamery Company, being president from the time of its organization in 1899 until 1917. He has also been a director of the Stockton Township Insurance Company and he served as clerk of school district No. 5 for fourteen years until he resigned in 1917. In politics he is independent, and he and his wife are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church at Stockton.

October 13, 1807, Mr. O'Keefe married Miss Lucy Eleanor Leonard. Mrs. O'Keefe was born at Marshalltown, Iowa, January 9, 1873, daughter of Patrick and Mary E. (McCarthy) Leonard. Her father was born in Ireland May 1, 1838, and her mother at Salem, Massachusetts, July 16, 1849. Her grandfather was named William Leonard. Mrs. O'Keefe's parents married at Berlin, Wisconsin, lived for a time at Wanpau, where her father was a merchant, later at Marshalltown, Iowa, and on coming to Portage County settled in Stockton Township, also lived at Stevens Point, and owned and occupied a farm in Lanark Township, and finally retired to Stevens Point. Her mother died at the county seat August 30, 1904, while her father passed away at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O'Keefe October 19, 1908. Mrs. O'Keefe is one of seven children, named George, Lucy, Frank, John, Mary, who died in infancy, Theresa and Gertrude.

Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. O'Keefe. Leonard Pat-



rick, already mentioned, was born July 12, 1903, and is already an intelligent boy farmer and stockman. Lloyd Michael, born September 4, 1905, died September 18, 1905; Michael, Jr., born January 1, 1908, also died in infancy. The youngest, Earl George, was born October 22, 1911.

A. W. BREITENSTEIN. In a business way few citizens of Portage County are more widely known over Central Wisconsin than A. W. Breitenstein of Stockton. The diversity and extent of his business relations are imposing and reflect great credit upon the energy with which he has prosecuted his affairs during a very busy life. Mr. Breitenstein is a farmer and extensive land owner and merchant, and is owner of warehouses and business interests at half a dozen points besides his old and central establishment at Stockton.

Though a resident of Portage County from earliest infancy he was born at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, April 29, 1865. It was in October of the same year that his parents, Anton and Mary (Beck) Breitenstein, came to Portage County. His father was a native of Alsace-Lorraine, born in 1831, while his mother was born in Germany in 1836. They married in Pittsburg, and on coming to Portage County located on a small tract of land of forty acres in Stockton Township. Anton Breitenstein, Sr., was possessed of much of the ability and enterprise which have characterized his son. Though he began here comparatively a poor man, he added to his possessions until he had about 1,000 acres in Portage County. He developed to a high point of efficiency the old homestead of 280 acres, and lived there honored and respected by his fellow citizens until his death in 1910. His wife passed away in 1905. The Breitensteins as a family are Catholics and the father was a democratic voter. They were the parents of eight children, all of whom are still living, and in order of birth they are: Lawrence, Lena, Louisa, Michael, Anthony W., Richard, Charles and Mary.

The early associations and interests of Mr. A. W. Breitenstein were with the old homestead farm. He attended public schools and also the business college at Stevens Point, and his school days were varied with useful work on the home farm. He began his career as a farmer, and at the present time owns 600 acres, much of it highly developed, in Portage County, besides 280 acres in Rusk County, this state.

Along with the management of his farm interests Mr. Breitenstein in 1892 engaged in business at Stockton, where his establishment is known throughout that section of the country. He is a dealer in agricultural implements, runs a mill and elevator and also has an extensive business as a grain and potato dealer.

Mr. Breitenstein is proprietor of a line of warehouses along the Soo line and St. Paul Railroad. On May 1, 1913, he organized the Breitenstein & Tozer Company at Stevens Point. This is an extension of his business at Stockton, and includes handling flour, feed, coal, cement and other products, and also agricultural implements.

Mr. Breitenstein still keeps his home in Stockton, where for the past fifteen years he has been postmaster. He is a democrat, but has been too busy to give much time to practical politics. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church. October 6, 1897, he married Miss Mary Kupps, of Milladore, Wisconsin. Six children were

born to them, Irene dying at the age of four years. The five living children are: Grace, Mabel, Alvin, Robert and George.

CHARLES A. NEWBY, whose fine farm establishment is in Buena Vista Township, has been a resident of Portage County practically all his life, and while he has been identified with different vocations his work for a number of years has been as a general farmer and stock raiser, the results of his enterprise being in conspicuous evidence at his present home place.

He was born at the old homestead of his parents in Buena Vista Township September 9, 1866, a son of George Campbell Newby. Charles A. Newby is a brother of Mrs. Fred H. Huntley and through her a complete account of the Newby family is published on other pages of this publication. The Newbys came to Portage County in 1855, and thus the name is one of the oldest as well as one of the most honored in the annals of the county.

Mr. Charles A. Newby grew up on a farm, had a public school education, and for a number of years worked in the lumber woods. From that hardy and adventurous occupation he returned in 1892 to practical farming, buying 120 acres in Waushara County, Wisconsin. After nine years there he sold out and for two years was engaged in the livery business at Wautoma. In November, 1903, he bought the place he now owns in Buena Vista Township. This comprises 284 acres, and in addition to the original area under cultivation he has cleared up about thirty acres more and now has a well balanced and systematized farm. In 1913 he erected a large barn 40 by 50 feet, and also has another evidence of modern, progressive farming in a silo 10 by 35 feet.

Mr. Newby is a republican and attends the Methodist Episcopal Church. July 14, 1891, he married Miss Rosa Puarica, who was born in Buena Vista Township February 16, 1870, daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Crofoot) Puarica, early settlers of that township. Both her parents are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Newby have three children and two young grandchildren. Their oldest child, Cecil, born January 25, 1893, married Frank Wenzel, of Stevens Point, and their young daughter, Elizabeth Sarah, was born July 4, 1917. Ward Wincel, the only son of the family, was born July 17, 1895, and by his marriage to Bertha Anna Wenzel has a son, Howard Charles, born October 23, 1917. Ruby Mae was born September 17, 1901, and is now a sophomore in the Stevens Point High School.

WILLIAM F. OWEN. It has been more than twenty years since William F. Owen came to Stevens Point to practice law, and he brought with him a record of capable performance as a lawyer and former district attorney of Price County. In Portage County his name has had increasing associations with the best work of the legal profession and with public affairs, and his abilities have received the compliment of a large law practice.

Mr. Owen has spent practically all his mature career in Wisconsin, but was born in Tioga County, Pennsylvania, February 24, 1861. His parents, James S. and Abigail E. (Dake) Owen, came to Wisconsin and spent a year and a half near Waupaca, but subsequently went back east. William F. Owen was one of six children. He was educated in Pennsylvania, and in 1884, at the age of twenty-three,

came to Wisconsin and located at Waupaca. In 1885 he moved to Amherst, where for two years he was a teacher and principal of the public schools. While there he took up the study of law. He pursued it diligently and with all the resources at his command. At the same time he had to make his own way. He was also a law student during the three years he spent as principal of schools at Phillips in Price County. He was admitted to the bar at Phillips in 1889, and in July, 1890, began practice at Phillips. Six months later he became a member of the firm Rowland & Owen, and subsequently was elected and served two terms as district attorney of Price County. In 1895 Mr. Owen moved to Stevens Point and his first partnership association here was Raymond & Owen. Afterwards he was a member of different firms but since 1911 has been in practice alone and he has a choice of some of the best legal business in the local courts.

December 26, 1886, Mr. Owen married Dora Webster, of Amherst, youngest daughter of Enoch Webster, a pioneer of that town. Mr. Webster was postmaster twenty-five years, was one of the early county commissioners of Portage County, was justice of the peace, and for a number of years stood in the relationship of general adviser to the community. He was the type of man whose services could not be easily overestimated, and his name deserves longest memory and affection. Mr. Owen by his first marriage had three children, Wayne W., of Spencer, Wisconsin; Elizabeth, wife of Leo W. Eilertsen, of Seattle, Washington; and Ruth, Mrs. L. E. Kennedy, of Janesville, Wisconsin. In 1903 Mr. Owen married Miss Emma Kurz, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. They have two young children, John Foster and Jeanne. Mrs. Owen is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Owen is affiliated with the three Masonic bodies represented at Stevens Point. Since moving to Portage County he served three consecutive terms as district attorney in the earlier years of his practice here, and only recently he was persuaded to accept another term in the same capacity. He has also been city attorney of Stevens Point and for several terms was a member of the local school board and in 1918 was elected mayor of the city.

**CARL TECH.** One of the oldest citizens of Plover Township is Mr. Carl Tech, who has been a resident of Wisconsin more than half a century and has spent many useful and productive years as a farmer in this county.

Mr. Tech was born in Germany November 11, 1836, son of Carl and Marie Tech, both of whom died in the old country. Carl Tech had five brothers, Chris, August, Albert, Fritz and William, all of whom bore arms for the fatherland in the successive wars between Germany and Denmark and Germany and France, the latter being the Franco-Prussian war of 1870.

Carl Tech spent nearly thirty years of his life in Germany, and in 1865 settled in Buffalo County, Wisconsin. He married at Buffalo in 1870 and after eleven years moved to Portage County and settled in Plover Township. Subsequently he made a change of residence and came to the place he now owns, comprising a good farm of seventy acres. Some years ago he gave his son William thirty acres, and the son now has the practical management of the entire farm. Mr. Carl Tech has been in Wisconsin since the days when forests covered a

large part of the state, and in his own time he has cleared up many acres and put them in cultivation. In politics he is a republican and is a member of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Tech married Miss Herman, daughter of Fritz and Hannah Herman, who on coming to America first settled in Minnesota and afterwards in Buffalo County, Wisconsin. They lived on a farm there, and finally moved to the village of Plover in 1893, where her father died in 1913 at the advanced age of eighty-seven. Mrs. Tech's mother died at Plover some years prior to her husband, at the age of seventy-six. In their family were eleven children: Minnie, deceased; Augusta; Henrietta; William and Hannah and Fredericka, all deceased; Robert; John; Charles, August and Hannah, deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Tech are the parents of seven children: Matilda is the wife of Edward Isherwood; Fred married Mary Prain and has two children, Evelyn and Harry. Julia, living with her parents, is the widow of Fred DeVore, by whom she had a son, Ernest. Albert married Sarena Thornsden, and their family consists of Robert, Rose and Beatrice. The fifth child, Robert, is now deceased. William is the manager of the home farm. Nellie, the youngest, is also deceased.

EDWIN TURNER was one of the pioneers of Portage County, shared in the parceling out of the Government domain in this section, lived upon and worked energetically to improve and develop the natural resources of the county, and was a man of many valuable and useful activities. He was an old soldier, and soldier records have been prominent in the family through the various generations.

The Turners are of old New England stock. Edwin Turner was born in Clinton County, New York, in 1830, a son of Abel and Mary (Turner) Turner. The mother is said to have been the first white child born at Plattsburg, New York, and was a niece of Nathan Beman, who figured in Revolutionary activities as the man who piloted Ethan Allen through some of the wild places of Northern New York in the war for independence. Abel Turner served as a soldier in the War of 1812. He and three other soldiers were presented with muskets for bravery on the field of battle. These guns were made from the first iron ore taken from the mines in the vicinity of Plattsburg. The gun presented to the grandfather is now owned by Miss Cora Turner of Amherst, and is one of the most interesting relics of a century ago found in Portage County. The name of her grandfather is engraved on a piece of metal fixed to the stock.

The late Edwin Turner grew up in the East, where his parents spent their lives, and was twenty-one years of age when he came west to Appleton, Wisconsin. For a time he was employed in carrying mail on the stage line between Neenah and Green Bay. He and his brother Charles also did considerable land surveying north of Marinette, Wisconsin.

It was in the year 1855 that Edwin Turner came to Lanark Township in Portage County and located a tract of Government land. In the fall of that year he went back East and married Miss Electa Miles. She was then living in New York State but was a native of Vermont. Her grandfather had also served as a soldier of the Revolution. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Turner returned to Portage County and lived on their farm until about 1870. They then sold this land and bought what is now known as the George

Ciperffe farm, also in the vicinity of Amherst. On this they pursued their activities as substantial farming people until about 1893, when they retired to the village of Amherst, where both of them spent their declining years.

The military record of Edwin Turner began with his enlistment as a private in a Wisconsin regiment, and he rose to the rank of lieutenant of Company I, Thirty-first Wisconsin Infantry. He had enlisted at Waupaca in the Third Wisconsin Cavalry as a private, and altogether saw three years of active service. For many years he was an honored member of the Grand Army Post at Amherst. His wife was a member of the Episcopal Church. The shoulder straps and other war relics carried by this old Union soldier are now carefully preserved by Miss Cora Turner. Miss Turner is herself a woman of thorough patriotism, interested in the deeds of her ancestors in the various wars, and in the present great world struggle in which America is engaged is doing much to the extent of her own strength and abilities and is setting an excellent example for her community in the matter of practical patriotism. Edwin Turner and wife had three children: Henry, Cora R. and Edith F. Edith died in infancy. Edwin Turner was always a man of influence and willing to work in matters of local and community improvements, and in politics was a staunch republican.

OLAUS IVERSON AANRUD. A resident of Portage County over thirty-five years, formerly connected with the sawmilling industry of Stevens Point, Olaus Iverson Aanrud has for many years been a successful farmer in New Hope Township, and has succeeded by industry and intelligent management in surrounding himself with all the needed comforts and conveniences that make life pleasant.

Mr. Aanrud was born in Norway August 17, 1856, a son of Iver and Olla (Christopherson) Aanrud. His mother died in the old country and his father many years later, in 1894, came to America and spent the last five years of his life with his son Olaus in Portage County. Accompanying him to America was a sister Randi, who also spent her last years in the home of Mr. Aanrud. Iver Aanrud in Norway spent his years as a farmer. There were four children to grow up: Dorothy, living in Minneapolis; Olaus Iverson; Martina, of Minneapolis; and Hans, who is still a resident of Norway and has gained considerable literary distinction, being author of several books.

Olaus Iverson Aanrud was twenty-four years of age when he came to America. He was educated in his native land and on leaving there in 1880 he came direct to Berlin, Wisconsin, where he spent one summer, and then moved to Portage County. For a number of years he worked at Stevens Point, most of the time with the John Week Lumber Company, being employed in the company's mill as setter. In 1894 Mr. Aanrud moved to a farm in New Hope Township, buying eighty acres, but in 1910 he bought his present place from his father-in-law. Here he has 120 acres, well cultivated, nearly all of it productive, and his farm is the home of some well selected Guernsey cattle. Mr. Aanrud is an active member of the Lutheran Church, and has done his part in local affairs as clerk of the school board.

In 1889 he married Miss Marie Peterson. Mrs. Aanrud, who is now deceased, became the mother of seven children: Olga Amanda,

Inez Palma, Clara Regina, Mona Olive (1), Mona Olive (2), Leila Ruby and Martin Almer.

Mrs. Aanrud was born on the farm where Mr. Aanrud now resides. Her father, Peder Christenson, located on this tract of land in pioneer times. He came to America about 1866, and soon afterward located in Portage County, where he cleared and improved a large tract of land. His wife, whom he married in Norway, was Annie Olson. Both of them died on the old farm, and their six children to grow up were: Christ, Olena, Marie, Carrie, Edwin and Regina.

ORRIN PIKE has known Portage County from his earliest recollections. Since attaining his majority he has acquired a worthy success as a practical farmer and business man in Plover Township, and has shown a spirit of helpfulness in all matters of community concern.

Mr. Pike was born February 28, 1882, during a brief residence of his parents in the State of Kansas. However, his people are pioneers of Wisconsin. His grandparents Pike came from New York State and settled in Belmont Township of Portage County in early days, and finally removed to McDill, where both of them spent their last years. They were laid to rest in the Kent Cemetery in Belmont Township. Their children consisted of Carrie, Nancy, Josie, Louise, Alva, Percy and Alonzo.

Alonzo Pike, father of Orrin, was born in New York State in 1850 and was brought to Portage County when a small child. He was reared and educated in Belmont Township and has always been a practical farmer. In 1892 he bought 160 acres now owned by his son Orrin, and cleared a large part of the land. In 1909 he removed to Adams County, Wisconsin, where he had previously taken up a homestead and now has an eighty acre farm in that county. He and his family spent about three years in the State of Kansas, and he also owned a farm there. Alonzo Pike married Eliza Pray, who was born in Waupaca County, Wisconsin, in 1851. Alonzo and wife had nine children, five sons and four daughters: Charles, Frank, Carrie, Orrin, Rosetta, Leroy, John, Myrtle and Minnie. Alonzo Pike is a republican.

While growing up on the farm that he now owns Orrin Pike attended the public schools and acquired most of his knowledge and training in agricultural lines on this farm. He has been its proprietor since 1909, and has carried forward the work of improvement, clearing and building until he has one of the valuable places of the community. Mr. Pike is a general farmer and stock raiser and has a number of high grade Guernsey cows. In politics he votes as a republican and is now a member of the local school board.

April 11, 1905, Mr. Pike married Miss Nellie Whitney. Mrs. Pike was born at Mineral Point in Iowa County, Wisconsin, June 29, 1874, daughter of Robert and Martha Maria (Saugwin) Whitney. Her father was born in Massachusetts August 22, 1822, and her mother in Pennsylvania in 1836. Robert Whitney left home at the age of fourteen, and came west through what was then the small village of Chicago and later located in Wisconsin at Mineral Point, where he married. He acquired his education in Massachusetts and at Springfield, Illinois. By trade he was a wagonmaker and followed that occupation at Mineral Point for a number of years. He finally went west to Nebraska and lived with his son Herbert Whitney and later both

removed to Missouri, where the father of Mrs. Pike died in 1909. Mrs. Pike's mother died at Mineral Point in 1895. The Whitney children numbered the following: Albert; Walter, deceased; Herbert; Jenette; Isabel, deceased; Nellie and William. Mrs. Pike's father was also a California forty-niner, having gone out to that far western district across the plains, but returned to the states by way of the Isthmus of Panama. He was at that time a young single man, and he married in 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Pike have one daughter, Phyllis, born December 24, 1907.

**LOUIS RAUSKEY.** An enterprising young citizen of Stevens Point who has gained recognition among the energetic and successful business men is Louis Rauskey, who has been a resident of this community since 1912.

Mr. Rauskey was born in Greece. He came to America, arriving in the land of freedom on October 9, 1907. His first employment and experience was as a worker in cotton mills at Holyoke, Massachusetts. He swept out the floor every day and was paid four dollars a week, and at the same time he attended night school. He remained at Holyoke eighteen months and from there went to Kensington, Illinois, where he worked with a railway section gang until the following winter. He then found employment with the R. H. Davis Rug Factory at Batavia, Illinois, employed as a rug weaver and attending school at the same time. On March 27, 1909, he found employment as a railway interpreter. His headquarters during this work was at Appleton, Wisconsin.

In 1912 he came to Stevens Point and established a shoe shining parlor. About that time he sent for his brother, who came over from Greece and joined him. In 1915 Mr. Rauskey took over a news stand, and on February 15, 1917, opened the Ariad Pool and Billiard Parlor and also the Ariad Restaurant and the College Inn a few months later.

Mr. Rauskey has traveled over thirty-nine states of the American Union and nine different nations, and is a young man of wide and cosmopolitan experience. He prepared for a position as wireless operator, and passed a successful examination and entered service in July, 1918. He was sent to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in the signal corps of the United States Army as a wireless operator and in October was transferred to Camp Meade, Maryland, ready for overseas service, arriving at the port of embarkation November 11, the day the armistice was signed. He obtained his honorable discharge December 6, 1918, and arrived at Stevens Point ready to attend to his business on December 12, 1918.

**HARRY E. SIEWWRIGHT.** The list of leading business citizens of Stevens Point contains the name of Harry E. Sievwright, who has established the right to such a title within comparatively a few short years. He has been the leading factor in the development of one of the city's important business industries, and is a man of recognized ability who has gained the reputation of always carrying through to a successful conclusion what he started out to do.

Mr. Sievwright is a native son of Stevens Point and was born June 13, 1885, his parents being Samuel H. and Ella (Hoag) Sievwright. He comes of Scotch, English and Irish descent, and his great-grandfather was Sir Archibald Sievwright, who was born May



*W. E. Sierrwright*



24, 1769, a captain in the Napoleonic wars. He married Eleanor Holmes, born April 12, 1786, and in 1821 they emigrated from their native Scotland to Montreal, Canada, where Sir Archibald died in 1846, and his wife in 1870. They were the parents of the following children: Thomas; Mary; Eleanor, who died at the age of eighty-nine years, was the wife of Mathew Tyndale, a descendant of the great translator, W. Tyndale, and a cousin of the late John Tyndale, the scientist; Thomas (2); Samuel, the paternal grandfather of Harry E. Sievwright; Isaac; Archibald; Agnes; Mary (2); Elizabeth; and George, and three children who died in infancy.

Samuel Sievwright, paternal grandfather of Harry E. Sievwright, was born in Ireland in 1818 and was there married to Maria Goodbody, who had been born there the year before her husband. They went to Canada, and in May, 1856, came to Stevens Point, where the grandfather was a lumberman for some years. In 1866 he went to Minnesota, and after a short stay at Lake City died in 1867. His widow later returned to Stevens Point and then went to Rhinelander, where she died in 1905, but her body was brought back to Stevens Point for burial. Their children were: Eleanor; Elizabeth; Archibald, of Rhinelander, Wisconsin; Maria, the wife of John Wright, of Elcho, Wisconsin; Mary Agnes, the wife of Charles Sparks, of Stevens Point; William, deceased; Samuel Holmes; and Anna Jane, the wife of William Whitaker, of Rhinelander. Eleanor Sievwright, the eldest among the above children, was born February 22, 1843, and was married July 4, 1865, at Stevens Point, to Thomas James Murray, who was born December 12, 1844, in Pennsylvania. He fought during the last two years of the Civil war as a Union soldier, and following the close of hostilities came to Stevens Point, where he was a surveyor and civil engineer for many years, and died January 27, 1906. He was a member of the Modern Woodmen and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and a man esteemed and respected wherever known. Mrs. Murray, who survives him, owns a comfortable home at No. 1102 Ellis Street, Stevens Point, but at present lives with her daughter, Mrs. Thomas Fulton, at 218 Dixon Street. She and her husband were the parents of nine children: Mary Holmes, Walter James, Ethel Hope; Violet, deceased; Grace Florence; Bertha Inez, deceased; Rose Evelyn; Effie Myrtle, deceased; and Eleanor, who died in infancy.

Samuel Holmes Sievwright, father of Harry E. Sievwright, was born August 7, 1855, in Canada, and was about nine months of age when brought to Portage County, Wisconsin, in May, 1856. He was educated in the public schools, and was married at Stevens Point to Ella Hoag, who was born in the northern part of Wisconsin. For a number of years Mr. Sievwright was identified with various business enterprises and ventures at this place, but in 1906 went to Rhinelander, where he now makes his home. Mrs. Sievwright passed away there in 1917. They were the parents of two children: Harry E.; and James C., in the United States service as a member of the Machine Gun Company, Sixty-Ninth Infantry, U. S. A.

After attending the public schools of Stevens Point Harry E. Sievwright became a student at the State Normal School here, and entered upon a course at the Stevens Point Business College. In 1903 he went to Rhinelander, where he was employed by the Mason-Donaldson Lumber Company until 1911, when ill health compelled

him to change his vocation for a time and for three years he lived the outdoor life of the farm. In 1914 he re-entered business affairs when he established a wholesale lumber company at Stevens Point, known as the H. E. Sievwright Lumber Company, Incorporated, which has since grown to large proportions, with a complete stock of northern products. It also acts as agent for southern lumber and west coast stock. While young, Mr. Sievwright is a thorough-going business man and an enterprising citizen and enjoys an excellent reputation at Stevens Point and elsewhere. He is a member of the local lodges of the Knights of Columbus and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and has other connections, business and social. Civic affairs hold interest for him as they do for other public-spirited men, and worthy movements never fail to have his support. His political beliefs make him a republican, while his religious affiliation is with the Catholic Church.

Mr. Sievwright was married in 1911 to Miss Margaret Huntington, of Platteville, Wisconsin, and they had one daughter, Eleanor Jane. Mrs. Sievwright died in 1915, and in 1916 he was married to Miss Ruth Fulton, of Stevens Point, their union having been blessed by the birth of two children: John and Marjorie.

MARTIN W. HILGENDORF. Among the younger generation of business men whose operations are being carried on in the southern part of Portage County, one who has attained to a position of large responsibility at an age when most men are just getting their start is Martin W. Hilgendorf, manager of the Melcher Lumber Company at Almond. Mr. Hilgendorf is one of the progressive and energetic men of this prosperous and growing community, and while his energies have been mainly devoted to the affairs with which his business is concerned, he has taken an earnest and helpful interest in civic matters and is accounted a valuable asset to the village in which his operations are centered.

Martin W. Hilgendorf was born at Juneau, the county seat of Dodge County, Wisconsin, February 17, 1889, and is a son of August and Henrietta (Melcher) Hilgendorf. His father, a native of Germany, came to the United States as a lad of eight years, learned the trade of carpenter in his youth, and gradually developed into a contractor and builder, a line in which he has built up a large and profitable business. His home and business headquarters are at Juneau, but his operations extend far beyond the limits of that community, and in many parts of the state he is known as an able and astute man of business. He was married in Wisconsin, Mrs. Hilgendorf being a native of this state, and they are the parents of three children: Leonard, who is connected with a furniture establishment at Juneau; Bernard, a resident of Almond; and Martin W., of this review.

Martin W. Hilgendorf received his education in the public schools of Juneau, then had a two year course at Stought Training School, Menomonie, and then taught one year at Butler, Pennsylvania, as manual training teacher, and one year in St. Paul. His early business training was secured at Juneau, under the preceptorship of his father. In this way he came into contact with the lumber business, in which he showed a great interest and for which he developed a marked aptitude, and by gradual stages he advanced in that industry until he came to Almond to take charge of the yards of the Melcher Lumber

Company. He has continued in this position to the present time, and through hard work, natural ability and making the most of his business opportunities has succeeded in increasing the business of this concern materially. Mr. Hilgendorf has firmly established himself at Almond, having bought a home here and also invested in some residential property, and has also demonstrated his faith in the future of the locality by showing a marked interest in its civic welfare. He has taken an active part in various civic movements, and has served efficiently and faithfully as a member of the village board, his work on that body being constructive and helpful. It has been his fortune to have impressed himself upon his fellow citizens as a man of worth and public spirit, a reputation which he is striving earnestly to maintain.

Mr. Hilgendorf married Miss Cora Martin, who was born at Almond, a member of a well known family here. They are members of the German Church, where both have numerous friends, as they have in other circles of the village.

OSCAR WALLER. Among the older and more substantial families of New Hope Township is that of Waller.

The parents of Oscar Waller were Ole and Kirstin (Loberg) Waller. Both were natives of Norway and were brought to this country when children. The grandmother Waller after the death of her husband in Norway came to America and acquired a tract of wild land near the lake at Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. She had a log house built for the accommodation of herself and her children and that old building is still preserved as a landmark, standing among the numerous luxurious country homes in that section of the state. She afterwards moved to Nelsonville, where she died. Mr. Oscar Waller's mother is a sister of Johan N. Loberg, a prominent resident of New Hope Township elsewhere referred to in this history. She and her brother Johan came together to America, locating in Dodge County, where she married Ole Waller. Ole Waller after coming to Portage County pre-empted a small tract and bought other land, cleared away the woods and brush, put up the first buildings, and was industriously engaged in farming there until his death in 1883. He was the father of six children: Hattie, Nina, Carl, Clara, Oscar and Emma. All are still living except Carl and Oscar.

Oscar Waller always lived at the home place, where he was born in 1871, was educated in the local schools, and made a success as a general farmer and also specialized to a considerable extent in the growing of potatoes. He assisted in organizing and after organization was a director of the New Hope Butter and Cheese Association, and took a prominent part in getting that business well started. His father was one of the charter members of the old New Hope Lutheran Church.

In March, 1900, Mr. Waller married Miss Inga Isaacson. She was born in Norway, daughter of Isaac Nelson. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Waller are Alma Odelia, Annie Mary and Carl Obert. Oscar Waller died June 10, 1918.

JOHN H. HOWEN has been a factor in the agricultural and industrial prosperity of Amherst Township for more than thirty years. A member of a pioneer family of Portage County, he grew up in the at-

mosphere of the hard work and hardships of life in this comparatively new country, and his present prosperity can be attributed to the fact that he has never lacked the courage to undertake a hard or disagreeable task, and has created the comfortable circumstances he now enjoys by the labor of his own hands.

Mr. Howen was born in Dodge County, Wisconsin, in January, 1854. He is a son of Peter and Taran (Loberg) Howen. His father, a native of Norway, came to the United States in 1848, spent several years in Waukesha County, and then moved to Dodge County, where he married, his wife having come from Norway in 1849. John H. Howen was about a year old when his parents came to New Hope Township of Portage County, and here they remained the rest of their days. They cleared and improved a good farm in that township, and also were identified with the organization of the New Hope Lutheran Church.

John H. Howen is the oldest of his parents' seven children. He grew up in New Hope Township, was educated in some of the early schools of the county, and for many years had his home with his parents. In 1881 he went out to South Dakota and homesteaded 160 acres in Kingsbury County. He remained there developing this land for three years, and proved up his claim. Returning to Portage County, he bought the farm he now owns of 120 acres in Amherst Township. Mr. Howen, who has spent his life as a bachelor, lived with or called his home at his parents' homestead in New Hope Township. On his own farm he erected a fine home, and has cleared about twenty-five acres. For the past two or three years he has lived on this farm in Amherst Township. Mr. Howen is also interested in the creamery at Benson's Corners, in the Farmers Produce Company at Amherst, and is an active member of the old New Hope Lutheran Church.

**WALTER CAMPBELL.** With the farming and stockraising interests of Carson Township Walter Campbell has been identified for a number of years, and through his energy and well-directed management has worked out a very desirable success. His home is on section 5, and in his community he is well thought of as an agriculturist and a citizen, having been elected at various times to public office and now being chairman of the township board of supervisors. He is a native of Portage County, having been born in a house on Dixon Street, Stevens Point, December 23, 1863, a son of Charles and Catherine (Mersch) Campbell.

Charles Campbell was born in either Scotland or Nova Scotia, in 1820, and when twelve years of age, desiring to see something of the world, ran away from home. About four years later he arrived at Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and two years later, or in 1847, settled at Stevens Point. There, being a sturdy and husky youth, willing to work and with boundless energy and ambition, he secured employment on the river, where he followed logging until 1873, his last trip that year being from Wausau to Saint Louis. Mr. Campbell then took up a homestead in Carson Township, where he continued to be successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits for ten years, and died December 9, 1883. He was a man of industrious character and stood high in public respect as possessed of honor and integrity. In his younger years he acted with the republican party, but later became a democrat. He and his wife, who was born in 1839 in Germany and still survives

him, living on the old homestead, had children as follows: Agnes, who was married and had three children, was a teacher of the Indians in New Mexico, and died there in May, 1915; Walter; William, who died in 1874; Mary, who died in 1873; Katie, the wife of F. H. Slusser, of Yakima, Washington; Johanna, the wife of Henry Meyer, of Eau Pleine, Portage County; Jessie, the wife of Peter Rhoda, of Carson Township; David, at home; Fred, at home with his mother; and James, a resident of Hope, Idaho.

Walter Campbell attended the public schools of Stevens Point and the old White School, and remained on the home place with his parents until 1887. During the following seven years he was superintendent of the county poor farm, then returning home for two years, at which time he started buildings and other improvements on the farm which he now occupies, located on section 5. He now has 120 acres, all cleared and under cultivation, and carries on general farming and stockraising, in both of which departments of agricultural work he has succeeded in achieving marked success. The well tilled fields yield abundantly, and the neat and thrifty appearance of the place indicates the supervision of a careful and painstaking owner. The democratic party finds in Mr. Campbell a staunch supporter of its principles and he has held a number of public positions of honor and trust, his official duties having always been performed in a satisfactory and able manner. He has been a member of the board of school directors for some years, and early became a member of the township board of supervisors. He was elected chairman of the latter board in 1893 and at various times since then has been elected to this honor, one which he holds at the present time. Fraternally Mr. Campbell is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and his religious connection and that of the members of his family is with the Catholic Church.

Mr. Campbell was married October 11, 1901, to Miss Dora Pelarski, who was born at Toma, Wisconsin, daughter of Michael and Mary (Jnicki) Pelarski, of Carson Township, and to this union there have been born ten children: Catherine, Margaret, Florence, Wanda, Charles, William, Mary, James, Agnes and Lloyd, of whom all are living except Florence and Mary.

EDWIN LYSNE. More than sixty years ago the land now owned and occupied as one of the substantial farms of Amherst Township by Edwin Lysne was taken up in its wild condition by his father. Thus from pioneer days to the present the name has been one of those chiefly identified with the growth and development of this peculiarly rich and prosperous section of Portage County.

The family came to Wisconsin from Norway, where Edwin Lysne was born August 10, 1853. His parents were Henry and Kisti (Wol) Lysne. Edwin was only an infant, too young to have any appreciation of the eventful journey across the Atlantic in 1854 to Wisconsin. The family first located near Columbus, Wisconsin, where the father was employed on the farm of a Yankee named Smith, from whom he learned the first words of the English language. Henry Lysne while living in Norway was for eighteen years connected with the Norwegian army, chiefly in secretarial duties, and had the command of about a hundred men. Henry's father, Ole Thompson Lysne, was also for many years an army officer, with the rank of lieutenant.

Grandfather Ole Lysne came to America about two years after his son Henry, first settling in Adams County, Wisconsin, but after the Civil war moving to the vicinity of Northfield in New Ulm Township, then to Goodhue County, Minnesota, where he and his wife, whose maiden name was Anne Seltu, spent their last years. The maternal grandparents of Edwin Lysne were Edwin and Susan Wol, both natives of Norway. After coming to America they also located in Goodhue County, Minnesota, where they died.

It was in 1855 that Henry Lysne brought his family to Portage County. They traveled in a wagon drawn by an ox team. Here Henry Lysne pre-empted eighty acres now owned by his son Edwin. After the war he homesteaded another eighty acres adjoining the first tract. He proved his loyalty to his adopted land by enlisting from Amherst Township in 1864 in Company B of the Forty-sixth Wisconsin Infantry. He was in service until the close of hostilities. After that he continued to live on the old homestead until his death in 1901. His wife died January 22, 1890. Henry Lysne assisted by his son Edwin cleared and improved the land of the homestead, cut away the heavy woods which made agriculture impossible at first, and also erected the first buildings for improvements. The Lysne family encountered perhaps more than an average share of hardships and inconveniences connected with pioneer life. At one time the family carried their drinking water from a spring a mile and a half away from the house. Henry Lysne was a man of influence in this locality, served at one time as side supervisor of Amherst Township, and he also took an active part in organizing the old New Hope Lutheran Church and later the South New Hope Church. The parents had eleven children, four of whom died in infancy or early childhood. Those who grew up were: Ole, who was a member of Company F of the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry and was killed in the last battle of the Civil war; Randina; Edwin; Susan, who lived with her brother Edwin; Anna; and Thomas and Henry, both now deceased.

Mr. Edwin Lysne grew up on the old farm in Portage County, attended the district schools and later the Waupaca High School. He also spent two years in Carlton College at Northfield, Minnesota where some of his relatives lived. At the age of sixteen he was qualified and taught his first school in Portage County, living with his parents at the same time. After giving up the work of the schoolroom he turned his attention to farming, and has made that his business through a long period of years. He still owns the old home of 160 acres and lives there, but the land is now cultivated by tenants.

In 1889 Mr. Lysne married Miss Martha Havey. She was born in Cambridge, Wisconsin, daughter of Ole Havey. Mr. and Mrs. Lysne have three stalwart sons, two of whom are now with the National Army. The oldest, Henry Oliver, is a graduate of the Lutheran College at Decorah, Iowa, and is a fine type of the educated young men who are now composing a large part of the men under arms. The second son, Carl Magnus, who is with Company I of the Eleventh United States Infantry, is a graduate of the Amherst High School. The third son, Walter Herman, finished his education in the State Normal School at Stevens Point and is now employed at Minneapolis. Mrs. Lysne, the mother of these sons, died June 17, 1907. Mr. Lysne and family are members of the South New Hope Lutheran Church.

In a business way he is also interested in the creamery at Benson's Corners and in the Farmers Produce Company at Amherst.

JOHN D. CURRAN, of Stevens Point, is one of the very oldest residents of Portage County, and is well known both as an old soldier and as one of the veteran landlords of the county seat.

He was born in Dane County, Wisconsin, December 7, 1846, and was only a few weeks old when his parents, John and Mary Ann (Code) Curran, established their pioneer home in Portage County.

His father, John Curran, was born in Ireland in 1812. Mary Ann Code was born in Missouri in 1820, just about the time that territory was admitted to the Union. John Curran, the grandfather, was born in Ireland in 1770 and died in Portage County in 1850. John and Mary Curran after their marriage lived for a time in St. Louis, then came to Dane County, Wisconsin, and from there moved to Plover, Portage County. John Curran was proprietor of one of the first general stores at the old county seat of Plover, and is remembered as one of the earliest business men of the county. He lived here only a few years and died in 1852. His wife died in 1858. They were members of the Catholic Church but at that time there was no regular church and occasional religious services were held by a missionary priest, Father Dale, who came from Fond du Lac. John and Mary Curran had four children: John; James, who died in 1872; Henry, who died in 1907; and Julia.

John D. Curran grew up and received his education in the local schools of Plover. In 1864, when eighteen years of age, he enlisted in Company E of the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry. He was with that command during the last year of the war and until Lee's surrender, and was at the Grand Review in Washington. His brother Henry enlisted in Company E of the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry in 1861, and after three years of service veteranized and re-enlisted in the same regiment. While a private he was wounded in the first day of the Battle of the Wilderness. He was finally promoted to captain and as such was mustered out.

After the war Henry and John D. Curran established the Curran House at Stevens Point, and were its proprietors and landlords for over forty years, from 1868 to 1909. Since the death of his brother, Captain Henry, John D. Curran has been chiefly busied with looking after his property and dealing in real estate. He and his brother bought and sold lands and were also interested in lumbering and in other business affairs. They have always been republicans. Mr. John D. Curran is a liberal in religious views. February 23, 1909, he married Miss Edith Jackson, of Stevens Point.

EDWARD LAWRITZ LOBERG. The ancestors and family connections of Mr. Loberg identified themselves with Portage County in pioneer times, when this was a center of the lumbering district of Wisconsin, and when it required a tremendous outlay of labor and patience to get the land ready for crops and establish homes. In addition to giving some account of the activities and experiences of Edward Lawritz Loberg the following paragraphs are also devoted to various members of his family.

Mr. Loberg was born in New Hope Township October 20, 1876.

He is a son of Nels L. and Rhoda (Ellingson) Loberg, both natives of Norway and both brought to America when young by their parents.

The paternal grandfather, Lars Loberg, whose wife died in Norway, came to America about 1854. For a few months he lived in Ashippen Township in Dodge County, Wisconsin, but from there moved to New Hope Township. Transportation facilities were very primitive at the time, and not owning a team of his own he hired a man with a wagon and yoke of oxen to bring him and his goods to New Hope Township. Lars Loberg then located on land where Edward L. Loberg, his grandson, was born more than twenty years later. Part of this land he secured by government title. He was a very energetic citizen, and in addition to getting much of his land under cultivation, he continued to accumulate, foreseeing a time when land would be valuable, and he owned between 500 and 600 acres. He was also active in church affairs and assisted in organizing the old New Hope Lutheran Church. He finally retired to Nelsonville, and died there. Lars Loberg brought five children with him to America, and three of them died in Dodge County. The only ones to reach mature years was Nels L. and L. L. Loberg.

The maternal grandparents of Edward L. Loberg were Elling and Karen Ellingson. They came from Norway to America about 1856 and at once settled in New Hope Township of Portage County. They secured a tract of wild land, and made it their home for many years, until the death of Elling Ellingson. His widow subsequently lived with her son Ole Ellingson and died in New Hope Township. The Ellingsons had a number of children, including the following: John, who enlisted and served four years in the Twelfth Wisconsin Infantry in the Civil war; Matt and Christ, both deceased; Rhoda, deceased; Sena, deceased; and Ole; while several others died as children.

Nels L. Loberg received part of his education in Norway and part of it in New Hope Township. He began farming on his father's old place, and lived there steadily until his death in 1902. He is well remembered by the old timers of that section of Portage County, was industrious, hard working and an honorable citizen, and left a record in which his children may take great pride. His widow survived him until January 30, 1917. Nels Loberg built several substantial structures on his farm, and at the time of his death left a good estate. He and his wife had nine children: Clara Louise; Emma, Ida and Anna, triplets, all of whom died in infancy; Edward Lawritz; Nora Effie, deceased; William Severin, who occupies the old home farm; Emma Amanda Isabel; and Alma Regina. The father of these children was one of the organizers of the Nelsonville Creamery.

Edward Lawritz Loberg grew up in a rural environment and attended the public schools of Portage County and also the Scandinavia Academy. He lived at home with his father, took his place in the fields and as an assistant manager on the farm, and remained there for four years after his father's death. He then bought the farm where he still lives in New Hope Township, comprising 125 acres, and to this he has given his energetic attention ever since. He is a breeder of full-blooded Guernsey cattle, and is one of the men who are making Portage County contribute to the high standing of Wisconsin as an agricultural state.

On February 7, 1905, Mr. Loberg married Laura Marie Helgeson. She was born in Amherst Township of Portage County, on the old



L. L. Loberg farm. She is a daughter of Hans and Emma Inga (Johnson) Helgeson, the former a native of New Hope Township and the latter of Iola Township, Waupaca County. Mrs. Loberg's paternal grandparents were Edward and Mary (Wolding) Helgeson, both natives of Norway. The latter came to America in 1854, at the age of sixteen, with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jens Wolding, the Wolding family locating in New Hope Township among the first pioneers there. Edward Helgeson came to this country alone during the '50s and also allied himself with the early life and affairs of New Hope Township. For a time he worked in the lumber woods of Michigan, also bought a place in New Hope Township which he cleared and improved, and he lived there until his death. His widow is still occupying the old homestead. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Loberg was Halvor Johnson, who came from Norway to America and settled in Iola Township, Waupaca County, where he died in 1905. His wife died in 1862. One of the nephews of Halvor Johnson was a Civil war soldier and died in Libby prison. The parents of Mrs. Loberg married in Portage County, New Hope Township, and have spent all their lives in this section of Wisconsin. For the past twenty-eight years their home has been a farm in Wittenberg. Mrs. Loberg was one of six children, all of whom are living, namely: Clara Bertha, Laura Marie, Charles Henry, Edwin Harris, Cora Mabel and Tina Bertrand.

Mr. and Mrs. Loberg have one daughter, Emma Leona. The family are members of the old New Hope Lutheran Church.

FELIX A. LUKASAVITZ. There are many reasons why the people of Stockton Township have been willing to entrust their public interest to such a citizen as Mr. Lukasavitz. He is now serving as chairman of the township board. Mr. Lukasavitz is a business man of wide range of experience, but is also a practical farmer, and he and his family have been merchants at Custer for over a quarter of a century. In all the relationships of a busy life he has proved true and a man who deserves implicit confidence and trust.

His birth occurred in Stockton Township December 7, 1866. He is a son of Joseph and Susannah (Glinecki) Lukasavitz. His parents were both natives of Poland, the father born there on November 8, 1839, and the mother in 1846. Joseph Lukasavitz came to America with his parents, John and Josephine Lukasavitz, and settled at Stevens Point in Portage County in 1860. This was one of the earliest Polish families in the county. John Lukasavitz died here about two months after his arrival, being then seventy-three years of age. His widow survived him until 1890 and was eighty-four when she died. Their own children were Paul, Frank and Joseph, and there were also three children of another marriage, Casimer, Peter and Justina.

The Glinecki family were also pioneers in Wisconsin. Mathias and Mary Glinecki came from Poland and first located at Berlin, Wisconsin, moving from there to Stevens Point, afterwards owning a farm in Sharon Township, but spending their last years in Stevens Point.

Joseph Lukasavitz grew up and received his education in his native country. He was twenty years old when he came to Portage County and here on February 14, 1866, he married and then settled

on a farm of sixty acres in Stockton Township. He was a man of great industry, and his ability enabled him successively to clear and develop tracts of land one after another until he had a complete farm of 260 acres. That achievement alone was a big contribution on the part of one man to the present resources of the county. He gave his farm good buildings, and was also identified at times with merchandising and other affairs. His death occurred in Stockton Township May 22, 1897, and was survived by his wife until January 15, 1903. They had a large family of children, named Felix, Albert, Helen, Paul, now deceased, Walter, Mary, Aggie, deceased, Joseph, Michael and Antone, deceased. Joseph Lukasavitz was a democrat in politics and a member of the Polish Catholic Church.

It was on the old homestead farm that Felix Lukasavitz spent his boyhood days, and was educated both in the parochial and public schools. He spent one year at W. W. Dagget's Business College at Oshkosh and soon afterward located in Berlin, where he was in the saloon business for six years.

While at Berlin, on June 2, 1891, Mr. Lukasavitz married Mary Cyman. She was born at Berlin August 15, 1872. In 1895 Mr. and Mrs. Lukasavitz left Berlin and returned to Stevens Point, where he engaged in the tannery business with Frank Mionskowski. These partners erected the tannery and developed a business which is still flourishing. At the end of four years he sold out to his partner and then came to Custer to take charge of the mercantile business started by his father and Joseph M. Kluck in 1891. Even before that date Joseph Lukasavitz had been an extensive potato buyer in that section, and had the distinction of selling the second load of potatoes out of Custer. After the death of Joseph Lukasavitz his partner, Mr. Kluck, sold his share of the business to Mrs. Joseph Lukasavitz, and since then this well known center of trade has been managed and conducted by Felix Lukasavitz. He is also one of the leading potato buyers and his individual operations as a farmer are conducted on a place of eighty acres three miles northeast of Custer. He owns his store property and residence in the town and in every sense is a man of substantial interests.

His public service began in the office of assessor, which he held for five successive years. For one year he was township clerk and is now in his fifth consecutive term as chairman of the board of supervisors and also postmaster. Mr. Lukasavitz is a loyal democrat and a member of the Polish Catholic Church.

He and his wife have had a family of eleven children: Helen, deceased; Felix Joseph, who married Josephine Lipinski, of Custer, and has one child, Catherine; Henry H., who died when four years old; Barney B., Florence, Bridget, Raymond T., Hilary J., Jerome C., Stanley C. and Harriet M.

**WILLIAM J. GAVIN.** Stevens Point is the home of a number of railway men, and one of the veterans of the transportation service living there is William J. Gavin, who for thirty years or more piloted trains up and down the Wisconsin Central and the Soo line as conductor until he has grown gray in the service and is undoubtedly one of the most popular men in the operating department of the road.

A native of Wisconsin, he was born at Neenah August 23, 1864, son of Martin and Mary (Allen) Gavin. His father was born in

Ireland and his mother in Brooklyn, New York. Martin Gavin came to America in 1847, landing at Boston, and not long afterwards came west to the new State of Wisconsin, where he located at Neenah in Winnebago County. He acquired a tract of land which he developed as a farm, but also engaged in the grocery and meat market business at Neenah. For many years he was a local butcher at Neenah. He died in 1887, when well advanced in years, and his widow passed away at Stevens Point. He was active in politics, serving as alderman and deputy sheriff at Neenah, and the family were all Catholics. Martin Gavin and wife married at Menasha, Wisconsin. Their children were: Joseph; Annie; Frank and Charles, deceased; William J.; Mary; and Edward, a physician at Fond du Lac, now major in the United States Army.

William J. Gavin received his early education in the public schools of Neenah, and in 1880, when only fifteen years of age, came to Stevens Point and went to work on the old Wisconsin Central Railway. In spite of his age he showed such capability that in 1883 he was promoted to conductor and continuously since the year 1887 has been a passenger conductor and is the oldest in point of continuous service on this division of the Soo line. He has been an active member of the Order of Railway Conductors since 1886.

Mr. Gavin is a member of the Catholic Church, the Catholic Knights, the Foresters and Elks, and is independent in politics. He and his family reside at 541 Main Street.

January 25, 1891, he married Jennie Marie Reton, who was born at Nelsonville in Portage County March 4, 1870, daughter of Ole and Gunild Reton, both natives of Norway. Her father was born in 1837 and her mother in 1852. They married in Norway, coming to America and from New York coming westward to a farm in New Hope Township of Portage County. In 1871 they moved to Stevens Point, where they had their home until the death of Mrs. Reton in 1896. The father then took a trip to Norway, and later went back a second time and was absent about seven years. On returning to Wisconsin he wound up his affairs and moved to California and died at Martinez in that state in 1907. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran Church. Mrs. Gavin has two brothers: Nels and John, who are in the jewelry business under the name Reton Brothers at Stevens Point. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gavin: Ethel, who graduated from the Stevens Point Normal School and also from the East High School at Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Kindergarten Normal School, is now supervisor in the students teaching department of the Minneapolis Kindergarten Normal and is also doing advanced university work during the summers at the University of Chicago. Anna, the second daughter, is a graduate of the East High School at Minneapolis and of the Stevens Point Normal, and is a teacher in the public schools. Grace, who graduated from the East High School at Minneapolis and the local normal school, was a popular teacher for two years and is now the wife of O. T. Cook, cashier of the Bank of Osceola, Wisconsin. The two younger children are William Reton and Esther Agnes, the former a graduate of both the Stevens Point High School and of the State Normal, and is now serving in the United States Navy, while the latter is a freshman in high school.

JEREMIAH RELLAHAN is a veteran railroader, began work in that line in early youth, and with various intervals of other occupations is still in the service, one of the hardworking and efficient conductors who reside at Stevens Point.

Mr. Rellahan was born at Berlin, Wisconsin, July 25, 1867, son of John and Mary (Howard) Rellahan. Both parents were natives of Ireland but came to the United States before their marriage and were married in Wisconsin. They then settled at Berlin, Wisconsin, where the father was employed a number of years as a section foreman on the St. Paul Railroad. He died in July, 1906, at the age of sixty-eight, and his wife passed away in August, 1884, at the age of thirty-seven. Their children, all living, are Jeremiah, Michael, Mary and John. The family were Catholics.

Jeremiah Rellahan was educated in Berlin at the public schools and at the age of seventeen found his first opportunity to get into the railroad service as a brakeman on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. He paid close attention to his duties, was willing and faithful, and in 1892 was promoted to the ranks of conductor. He was with that road for three years as conductor, until failing health obliged him to resign. Mr. Rellahan moved to Stevens Point in 1900, and for nine years was employed as a night watchman for the John Week's Lumber Company. In 1912 he resumed railroading, this time with the Green Bay & Western Railroad, beginning as brakeman and for the past three years has been a conductor. His home is at 637 Water Street at Stevens Point.

Mr. Rellahan is a democratic voter and is a member of St. Stephens Catholic Church. On November 17, 1897, he married Miss Mary Quinn, who was born in Stockton Township of Portage County in September, 1865, daughter of James and Ann (Leonard) Quinn. James Quinn was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, March 27, 1841, and his wife was a native of New York State. The grandfather, James Quinn, Sr., died in Ireland at the age of seventy-five. His son James in 1853 brought his widowed mother to the United States. Her maiden name was Rose Daley. Coming to Wisconsin, they joined his brothers Patrick and John at Princeton. James Quinn had a good education in Ireland and after coming to Wisconsin worked as book-keeper and clerk and also drove stage between Berlin and Stevens Point. He and his brothers Patrick and John finally brought their mother to Stevens Point. Patrick Quinn and Thomas Gray are to be remembered as among the pioneer merchants of Stevens Point. James Quinn spent a number of years on the river, and later bought a farm in Stockton Township. That was during war time. He sold out to a man named Leonard Van Hecke. After that he worked for his brother Patrick in the store. About 1863 James Quinn married at Stevens Point and is still living. Since 1911 his home has been at Neenah, Wisconsin, and he is now retired. He and all the family are members of the Catholic Church. The children of James Quinn and wife were as follows: Mary; James, deceased; Margaret; William and John, deceased; James; Joseph; Edward; Francis; Catherine; George; Charles and Fred. Mrs. Rellahan was educated in the public and parochial schools at Stevens Point and also attended the State Normal School there. Mr. and Mrs. Rellahan have five children: John Joseph, born March 10, 1899, at Berlin, Wisconsin, is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School with the class of 1918; Anna



*Adam Manchecki.*

Lucile, born in 1901, died in infancy; James Francis, born in 1903, died in infancy; Margaret Geneva, born July 12, 1904, now a student in the eighth grade of the St. Stephen's Parochial School; and William Jeremiah, born August 15, 1906, in the sixth grade of St. Stephen's Parochial School.

**ADAM MANCHESKI.** Steady application and persevering attention to the building up of an enterprise have brought success to Adam Mancheski, proprietor of one of the leading retail meat markets of Stevens Point. Mr. Mancheski is of Polish ancestry, has come to success through the avenue of hard labor and long continued work both for himself and others, and is a man of pleasant and genial manner and has hosts of friends in Portage County.

Mr. Mancheski was born at Dunkirk, New York, December 20, 1869. His parents, Frank and Mary Mancheski, were born in Poland, and many years ago immigrated to the new world and settled in New York. Later they came to Portage County, Wisconsin, locating on a farm, but finally moved back to Dunkirk, New York, where both of them are still living. Their children were: Margaret, deceased; Adam; Josie; George, who died at the age of twenty-two; Frank; Kate, who was killed by a train in Green Bay; Nicholas; and Joseph.

Adam Mancheski received his early education and rearing in Portage County, attending the public schools. He did his first regular labor as a wage earner as a section hand on the railroad. He was promoted to section boss and later for some years was a stationary fireman in paper and saw mills. About 1905 he invested his capital and experience in establishing a meat market and grocery at 418 North Second Street in Stevens Point, and has kept this business growing and flourishing with an ever wider circle of patrons to the present time. Mr. Mancheski also owns considerable business property and his home at 420 North Second Street.

He is a democratic voter and a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church. In 1894 Mr. Mancheski married Miss Josephine Schultz, of Dewey Township, Portage County. She is a daughter of Martin and Kate Schultz. Her mother died in 1913 but her father still lives on the old farm in Dewey Township. Mr. and Mrs. Mancheski became the parents of twelve children: Edward, who is now serving in the American Army, fighting for the ideals of American democracy and the freedom of the land of his ancestors; Peter and Hattie, both deceased; Ida; Gertrude; Celia; Benjamin; Harry, deceased; Frank, deceased; Genevieve; Dorothy and Dominic, deceased.

**CARL WALLER.** Throughout his entire career Carl Waller has made his home in Amherst Township and here has been prominently identified with agricultural interests and with the upbuilding and advancement of its general welfare. He is a man of superior ability in his line and has won that prosperity which is the reward of honorable effort, being one of the substantial and reliable representatives of farming, a class to which the county of Portage must look for its future progress.

Carl Waller was born on the farm which he now occupies in Amherst Township July 14, 1874, and is a son of Nels and Helene (Howen) Waller, natives of Norway. His paternal grandparents were Halvor and Bertha Waller, who on immigrating to the United

States located first in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, where the grandfather died in a log house which still stands as a historic memento of pioneer days. Mrs. Waller subsequently came to Portage County and spent her last days in the vicinity of Nelsonville. The maternal grandparents of Mr. Waller passed their entire lives in Norway. Nels Waller was born in Norway, August 18, 1834, and was a youth when he accompanied his parents to the United States, the first settlement of the family being in the vicinity of Pine Lake, Waukesha County. There he worked with his father for several years, but in 1859 came to Portage County and purchased land in Amherst Township. His first years were difficult ones, but he was a persevering and persistent man and continued in his efforts until he had established himself upon a sound footing. He was married July 8, 1869, to Helene Howen, who was born in Norway, June 20, 1847, and who, following the death of her parents, made the trip to this country alone and came directly to the home of her uncle, Peter Howen, who lived on a farm in New Hope Township. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Waller settled down to the cultivation of their fields and the making of a good home for their children, and here the remainder of their useful and honorable lives were spent, the father dying November 2, 1895, and the mother April 17, 1899. They were devout and God-fearing people, members of the Lutheran faith, and Mr. Waller assisted in the organization of the old New Hope Lutheran Church. There were nine children in the family: Helen, John and Anton, who are deceased; Bernhard, who married Ada Hoffman; Lloyd, who married Elsie Rudiger; Tina, who married Fred Lutz; and Olaf and Hilda, who reside on the old home farm with their brother Carl.

Carl Waller was educated in the district schools and his entire life has been passed on the homestead place upon which he was born. He has added many improvements to the property and has been successful in making it more productive. This 100-acre property now presents an attractive appearance with its commodious buildings, well-kept fields, and general air of prosperity, and is adjudged one of the valuable farms of the township.

Mr. Waller has devoted his entire life to farming and has few outside interests. He has not sought preference in public affairs, although he takes an intelligent interest therein and endeavors wherever possible to aid in the progress of his community. His chief concern, however, is that he make a success of his life work and that he sustain the honorable reputation established by his parents. Mr. Waller is unmarried.

OSCAR H. WROLSTAD. Two vocations, those of farming and merchandising, have occupied the attention and energies of Oscar H. Wrolstad since he entered upon his independent career. As the first merchant of the community of Peru, during a long period he supplied the wants of the residents of this locality in a mercantile way, but in 1912 disposed of his interests in this direction and turned his attention to agriculture, in which he has since been engaged in New Hope Township. He is one of the progressive and public-spirited citizens of this part of the county and on several occasions has been the incumbent of offices of official trust.

Mr. Wrolstad was born on his father's farm a little north of Peru, in New Hope Township, January 1, 1876, being a son of Halvor

O. and Mary (Roe) Wrolstad. His paternal grandparents were Ole O. and Osele (Snaoss) Wrolstad, who were married in their native Norway, from whence they journeyed to Havre, France, and there took a sailing vessel which landed them at New York City. They then made their way by the Hudson River, Erie Canal and Great Lakes to Muskegon, Michigan, but after a short stay pushed on to Rock River, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, and after spending several years of farming there came to New Hope Township, Portage County, Ole O. Wrolstad securing a tract of land in the heavy timber. Here he succeeded in clearing and developing a property of 280 acres, and was also owner of a sawmill which he built at Northland, Waupaca County, and another in Alban Township, Portage County. He and his wife died full of years and with the respect and esteem of the entire community upon the farm of their son in New Hope Township. They were the parents of six children: Ole, deceased; John, deceased, who fought four years as a soldier of the Union during the Civil war, being with the Fifteenth (Scandinavian) Wisconsin Infantry; George, who was also a soldier of the Union during the Civil war, through which he passed safely, but is now deceased; Halvor O.; Hans, deceased; and Martin O., a prosperous farmer and leading citizen of New Hope Township. Ole O. Wrolstad was one of the men who organized New Hope Township and held a number of local offices, being elected thereto by his fellow-citizens who had come to appreciate and admire his many sterling qualities of heart and mind and his absolute integrity in all matters of life.

The maternal grandparents of Oscar H. Wrolstad were Ingebright and Karen (Selerud) Roe, both of whom are now deceased. On first coming to this country they settled in Dodge County, Wisconsin, where they owned land, but subsequently sold this property and moved to Portage County, where Mr. Roe acquired 240 acres, purchased from the United States Government and from private parties in 1866. This was all wild land, but Mr. Roe, an industrious and enterprising man, succeeded in clearing and developing it, and it is now the home of his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Emma Roe, the widow of his son Peter. The children of Ingebright and Karen Roe were as follows: Peter, who was engaged in farming for many years prior to his death; Mary, a resident of New Hope Township; Simon and Jacob, who are deceased; Carl, a resident of Lake Preston, South Dakota; and Jonas J.

Halvor O. Wrolstad, father of Oscar H., was born at Rock River, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, and was still a child when he accompanied his parents to Portage County. He has continued to be a resident of New Hope Township and a farmer and during the greater part of the time has resided on his present farm, a tract of 120 acres, which was cleared by his own hands and the buildings on which were erected by him. He now has a comfortable home and a valuable property and is looked upon as one of the substantial men of his community, a citizen of public-spirited tendencies and a man of integrity in business matters. He was one of the organizers of the creamery at Peru and has other interests. With his family he belongs to the old New Hope Church. Mr. and Mrs. Wrolstad have been the parents of ten children, namely: Oscar H., Ida, deceased, Clara, Hannah, Emil, Josephine, Minnie, Henry, Bennie and Selma.

The schools of district No. 1 furnished Oscar H. Wrolstad with his educational training and as a youth he was taught the secrets of suc-



cessful farming by his father, with whom he worked until entering upon a career of his own. About the year 1898, with his uncle, Martin O. Wrolstad, he started the first store founded at Peru, a general merchandise establishment, and erected the building. After one year Martin O. Wrolstad sold out to his nephew, who continued to conduct the enterprise, building it up and developing the business to sizable proportions. He was energetic, progressive and up-to-date in his methods, considerate in looking after the needs and wishes of his customers, and fair in his transactions, and was thus able to secure a large share of the patronage of the people of the community. In addition he acted in the capacity of postmaster, an office which had formerly been held by his uncle, but when the rural free delivery came this was one of the offices affected. After fourteen years of merchandising Mr. Wrolstad answered the call of the farm, in 1912 buying a property a little east of Peru in New Hope Township. He now has forty-four acres of highly improved land, in addition to which he rents a considerable acreage, and has erected a good set of substantial buildings. About half of his land has been cleared by Mr. Wrolstad, and here, in addition to general farming, he is engaged in the breeding of graded Ayreshire cattle. He was for some years interested in the creamery at Peru, and held the office of treasurer thereof for several years. As a citizen he has been prompt in discharging his responsibilities, and was for four years treasurer of his township.

Mr. Wrolstad was married July 10, 1901, to Miss Ida Dobby, who was born in Alban Township, Portage County, daughter of John Dobby. To this union there have been born four children: Margaret, Julian, Philip and Vernon. With Mrs. Wrolstad and the children Mr. Wrolstad attends the Lutheran Church at Northland, Waupaca County.

LEVI MCGOWN is a practical farmer and has exemplified the progressive spirit which has put Portage County far ahead in the matter of agriculture and agricultural organization and system. He represents an old and well known family in this section of Wisconsin, and is now managing the old homestead in Plover Township where he was born December 22, 1888.

His parents are John and Maria (Taylor) McGown. His father was born in Wayne County, New York, February 3, 1835, son of William and Jane (Huff) McGown and grandson of Stephen McGown, who came from Scotland in colonial times and settled at Cherry Valley, New York. He was living in that locality during the War of 1812. John McGown came to Plover Township in 1858 and rented a farm for a time, but after a year returned to New York. On his second coming to Wisconsin he established a home in Stevens Point and went to work for O. C. Wheelock. On October 12, 1861, he volunteered his services for the defense of the Union in Company B of the Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry, and was in service for more than three years, until his honorable discharge at Madison on January 30, 1865. He was in some of the hard and determined fighting in some of the campaigns which wrested the control of the Mississippi River from the Confederates. He was at Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, Iuka, the second battle of Corinth, and was with Grant in one of the early attempts against Pittsburg, and afterwards in the long siege of Pittsburg. After the war he returned to Plover Township and worked on a farm one

year, and then bought forty acres of the farm where he now lives with his son Levi.

On November 15, 1865, John McGown married Maria Taylor, who was born in New York State in 1847, daughter of George Edwin Taylor, of a family whose connections with Portage County are well known and are described more at length on other pages. Mrs. Maria McGown died in 1899. They had a family of eight children, Levi being the youngest. Ella is the wife of Elmer J. Youman, of Westboro, Taylor County, Wisconsin; Frank is a farmer in Plover Township and also a rural mail carrier; Otis is a farmer in Plover; Addie married John Langton, of Plover village; Maria is the wife of Walter Smith, a Plover Township farmer; John Austin lives at Vernonia, Oregon; and Amy is the wife of Harvey James Smith, of Plover Township.

Levi McGown was reared on the old farm, obtained a public school education, and for several years has been industriously engaged in managing a farm of eighty acres. He is doing well and his success so far is an ample promise of increased usefulness and prosperity in the years to come. Politically he votes an independent ticket.

February 15, 1911, Mr. McGown married Miss Nellie Langton, who was born in Plover Township January 22, 1889, daughter of Alvin Langton, of that township. Mr. and Mrs. McGown have three children, Hazel Bernice, Beulah Catherine and Bernard Lee.

WILLIAM J. HERMANN is one of the competent railway men who make their home at Stevens Point, and for a number of years has been in the service of the Soo lines as an inspector.

He is especially loyal to Portage County as the place where he was born and spent practically all his years. His birth occurred in Plover Township April 26, 1885. His parents, William and Margaret (Trageiser) Hermann, were both natives of Germany, where they married, and where four of their children were born, named Matilda, Lina, Emil and Arnold. In 1879 the little family came to America, settling in Portage County, and after one year in Plover village moved to a farm in that township. The father cleared up the land and made a home of excellent improvements and in those surroundings he spent his last years. He died honored and respected in 1908, at the age of sixty-six. His widow is still living on the farm. The family are members of the German Catholic Church. The children born after the parents came to this country were: Fannie, who died in 1906, Eva, William J., Frederick and Emma.

William J. Hermann spent his boyhood days on the old homestead. He thus has a practical knowledge of farming. He attended both the public and parochial schools, and at the age of sixteen started to earn his own living as a workman in a paper mill. On July 6, 1912, he entered the railway service as an inspector and has been closely attentive to his work ever since. He is a member of the Brotherhood of Railway Engineers. Mr. Hermann owns a good home at 228 Dixon Street in Stevens Point. He is independent in politics and is a member of the Evangelical Church of Stevens Point.

August 14, 1912, he married Elizabeth Hoerter, who was born in Germany March 25, 1884, daughter of Michael and Christina (Beiner) Hoerter, who came to Portage County and settled on a farm near Amherst Junction, where they lived ten years and then

moved to Stevens Point. Her father died in that city April 4, 1896, at the age of forty-five. The widowed mother is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Hermann. Mr. and Mrs. Hoerter were members of the Evangelical Church. Their six children were: Michael, Christina, John, Elizabeth, Carl, who died in March, 1917, at the age of thirty-one, and Frederick William.

Mr. and Mrs. Hermann have two interesting young children, May Eleanor, born May 1, 1914; and Elroy William, born July 1, 1916.

**EARL NEWBY.** Prominent among the younger generation of men that are making themselves useful in the administration of public affairs is Earl Newby, an esteemed and popular citizen of Stevens Point, who as treasurer of Portage County is rendering faithful and efficient service, fulfilling the duties of his responsible position to the very letter. A son of Thomas J. Newby, he was born June 31, 1886, in Plover, Portage County, Wisconsin. His paternal grandfather, Patrick William Newby, was born and brought up in England. Soon after his marriage he came with his wife to Wisconsin, locating in Portage County. Taking up land in Plover Township, he labored with true pioneer courage to improve the farm on which he and his wife spent their remaining days.

Born on the parental homestead in Plover Township, Thomas J. Newby was educated in the district schools, and on the home farm acquired a thorough knowledge of the different branches of agriculture. Choosing the occupation to which he was reared, he bought land in Plover Township, and in its management has met with well deserved success. He married Mary Norton, a native of Minnesota, and of their union three children have been born, namely: Estella, wife of Anton Green, of Stevens Point; Earl, the special subject of this brief sketch; and Elsie, wife of Frank Halladay, Jr., of Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Having acquired his elementary education in the schools of Plover Township and Village, Earl Newby assisted his father in the care of the home farm until taking unto himself a wife. For five years after that important event he was engaged in farming on his own account. Making a complete change of occupation, Mr. Newby then accepted a position as brakeman on the Soo line, and continued thus employed until he had the misfortune to lose one hand. Nothing daunted, however, he fitted himself for a business career, completing the commercial course at the Stevens Point Business College. Subsequently, from 1912 until 1915, he operated an auto livery, being the first one-handed man in the county to run an automobile. On January 1, 1915, Mr. Newby assumed charge of the office to which he had previously been elected, and as county treasurer is administering the affairs of his position with credit to himself and to the great satisfaction of the people.

Mr. Newby married in 1906 Elizabeth Chase, who was born in Almond, Portage County, Wisconsin, a daughter of Perley Chase. Religiously Mrs. Newby is a member of the Catholic Church. Fraternally Mr. Newby is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

**FRANK ZBLEWSKI** is a resident of Stockton Township, where he owns a well improved farm. A self made man, Mr. Zblewski has

progressed steadily toward the goal of success until he is now recognized as one of the substantial farmers of his vicinity, and also as a loyal and public spirited citizen.

Mr. Zblewski was born in Sharon Township of this county July 25, 1877, son of Jacob and Victoria Zblewski. His parents married in Poland, and on coming to America settled in Chicago in 1871, the year of the great fire. After five years they came to Portage County, and bought eighty acres in Stockton Township, land now owned by their son Frank. Jacob Zblewski now lives in Sharon Township. His first wife died in 1885, the mother of six children, Joseph, Frank, Roman, Henry, Helen and Mary, all living except Mary. For his second wife Jacob Zblewski married Mary Golinski, and their children were John, Lucian, Jacob and Faustine. For his third wife the father married Mary Modrzejewski. To this union were born Nicholas, Lucy, Felix, Anna, Johanna, Charles, Frances, Veronia, Henry and Mary.

Mr. Frank Zblewski grew up in Stockton Township, was educated in the parochial schools and for a very limited time in the public schools. He has employed the years of his manhood usefully and well as a farmer. He bought the eighty acre farm of his father in Stockton Township, and Mrs. Zblewski owns the farm in Stockton where they live, and he has a place of twenty acres in New Hope Township. His land has been most substantially improved. His barn is 30 by 86 feet with 16-foot posts. He is doing much with good cattle, keeping grade Guernseys. Politically Mr. Zblewski is a democrat and he and his family are members of the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia.

In 1903 he married Miss Sallie Herek. She died September 18, 1912, the mother of five children, named Laura, Anastasia, Lewis, Edwin and Sallie. On January 14, 1913, Mr. Zblewski married Mrs. Julia Kruzitski, widow of Bernard Kruzitski. By her first marriage she had two children, Irene and Eugenia. Mr. and Mrs. Zblewski have a daughter, Loretta.

The maiden name of Mrs. Zblewski was Julia Pliszke. She was born in Poland November 1, 1876, daughter of Peter and Anna (Glin-ecki) Pliszke. Her parents came to Portage County in June, 1881, and in March, 1882, located on the farm where their son Frank now lives in Stockton Township. Here the father died August 8, 1910, at the age of seventy-five, and his widow is living with her son Frank, aged eighty-one. Their children were: four in number: Stanley, Frank, Catherine and Julia. Mrs. Zblewski's father was a carpenter by trade and followed that occupation for a number of years. He was employed to put up part of the building on the place where Mr. Zblewski now lives. Mr. Pliszke was a democrat and a member of the Catholic Church at Polonia.

BURTON HARVEY is one of the leading dairymen of Amherst, and for practically twenty years has supplied a large part of the milk consumed among the people of that village. Mr. Harvey represents pioneers in this section of Wisconsin, and the family record as well as his own have been most creditable.

He was born at Compton, Province of Quebec, Canada, January 29, 1855, a son of Gardner and Lydia (Boynton) Harvey. His paternal great-grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. The paternal grandparents were Lemuel and Charlotte (Fletcher) Harvey, the latter of whom died in Canada. Lemuel Harvey was the

leader of the family into the wilds of Wisconsin, and when Portage County was still a wilderness he located about a mile and a half above Stevens Point. About three years later he gathered together and started down the river a large raft of logs, but conveyed them only as far as Burlington, Iowa, where he was taken ill and died. Gardner Harvey, who was born in Compton, Canada, came west with his family in 1859 to Jordan, Wisconsin, and after his father's death continued for a time to operate north of Stevens Point. He then bought a part of what is now the County Farm in Amherst Township, and lived there until 1876, when he retired to the village of Amherst. At one time he owned 360 acres in the county, but at the time of his retirement his farm consisted of about 200 acres, a large part of which had been cleared and developed by his own hands. He spent fifteen years of his retired life in Florida, but died in Amherst in 1898. His wife, who died there in 1901, was born in Island Pond, Vermont, and when she was a child her parents moved from New England to Compton, Canada, and her mother died there. His father owned several flour mills and farms in Canada. Gardner Harvey and wife were the parents of four children: L. P., Hazen Hazettine, Herbert H. and Burton.

Burton Harvey was about four years of age when his parents came to Portage County, grew up here and received an education in the public schools, and had just passed his majority when his parents removed to the village of Amherst from the farm. Soon afterwards he bought a place of forty acres about half a mile west of Amherst, and farmed it for a number of years while still living in town. In 1904 he bought the Mrs. Phoebe Grover place of 114 acres, where he has since lived. The house is in the village of Amherst and the farm is just outside the corporate boundaries. This farm was acquired direct from the government by Peter Grover, who also owned eighty-two acres now owned and occupied by Mr. Harvey's son. Mr. Harvey and his son operate a high class dairy known as the Elm Dale Farm, and have it stocked with a herd of high grade Guernsey cattle.

In 1884 Mr. Harvey married Miss Sophia Smith. She was born at Lake Mills, Wisconsin, daughter of Casper Smith. Her father was a pioneer of Amherst, and a veteran of the Civil war. He served in Company D of the Twenty-Ninth Wisconsin Infantry, and was in the campaigns and battles for three years, until the close of hostilities. He was a native of Germany, born in Bavaria, and married his first wife in the old country and came to America in 1853, locating first in Madison, Wisconsin. He spent about three years there, and his wife died in that city and also two of his children. He then moved to Watertown, Wisconsin, where he married Miss Emilia Faymer. She was also a native of Germany and had come to America about the same time as Casper Smith. They then settled at Lake Mills in Jefferson County, but on December 23, 1865, the family established a home on a farm two miles west of Amherst in Portage County. Casper Smith afterwards sold this place and retired to the village of Amherst, but finally went back to the farm and he and his wife died there. By his first marriage only one child grew to maturity, George W. Smith, of Amherst. By his second marriage there were four children: Mrs. Harvey; John; Casper, Jr., now on the old farm in Amherst Township; and Mary, wife of Marion Fleming, of Amherst Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey have two children. The older, the business partner and associate of his father, is Verne Manley. The younger is Winifred Rosamond. Mr. and Mrs. Harvey are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. For several years he has been honored with a position in the village council and is a man of public spirit in all his relationships with the community.

**JAMES M. MANLEY.** The contribution of James M. Manley to the commercial interests of the prosperous village of Bancroft consists of a well-conducted and up-to-date hardware establishment, which attracts patronage from all over this section. Mr. Manley has been a permanent resident of Bancroft during the past nine years and in this time has become one of the leading citizens of the community. In addition to his hardware business he has interests in several other enterprises, is a property owner, and one of the live, energetic and public-spirited citizens.

Mr. Manley was born at Almond, Portage County, Wisconsin, May 15, 1863, and is a son of Samuel M. and Irene (Markham) Manley. His father came to Wisconsin as a young man and was here married in 1861, shortly after which he donned the uniform of his country as a member of the Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, Company F. He went with his regiment to Madison from the enlistment point at Stevens Point, and subsequently saw some of the hard fighting of the war, being in the battle of Five Forks with Sheridan's troops, and subsequently going to Petersburg with the forces of General Grant. On numerous occasions he had narrow escapes, and once, while building a fire, the rifle which he was using as a prop exploded and nearly killed him. About one week before the surrender of General Lee Mr. Manley was wounded and was removed to the hospital at Washington, D. C. Following his recovery, the war having closed, he returned to his home in Almond Township, Portage County, and again engaged in farming, in which he continued to be occupied during the remainder of his life. Mrs. Manley survives her husband and is a resident of Bancroft.

James M. Manley received his education in the public schools of Portage County and was reared to the pursuits of agriculture. However, farming did not appeal to him, and when he was still a youth his adventurous spirit led him to leave the parental roof and go west seeking his fortune. He first went to the Black Hills, and during the following twenty years visited many places in the western states, the greater part of his time, however, being spent in Montana, where he became the owner of a ranch and engaged extensively in the cattle business. He returned to Almond after twenty years, and was married in 1902 to Miss Anna Young, who had been born, educated and reared at Almond, and whom he had known as a youth. The next seven years were passed in Montana, but in 1909 Mr. and Mrs. Manley came back to Portage County, this time to settle permanently at Bancroft. Here Mr. Manley established himself in the hardware business, which he has since built up to appreciable and profitable proportions. He also has various other interests, as before indicated, owning three houses and places of business, being one of the proprietors of a garage and having the agency for the Grand and Chevrolet automobiles at Bancroft, and having also an interest in the cheese factory which has just commenced operations. He has been

a constant and generous contributor toward public-spirited movements, and showed his friendship for the cause of education when he assisted materially in the building of the high school here. Mr. and Mrs. Manley are the parents of four bright and interesting children: Fred, Helena, James M., Jr., and Glenn, all of whom are attending school. The oldest son, Fred Manley, is now serving his country in the United States Navy.

MARTIN N. MANLEY, brother of James Manley, and also one of the live and progressive business men of Bancroft, was born in the town of Almond, Wisconsin, and there received a public school education. When he left the home farm he started railroading at Kaukauna, but after one year returned to the homestead, where he followed farming for a like period. Going next to Fond du Lac, he secured a position as brakeman on the Wisconsin Central Railroad, and engaged in that line of work for about four years, but in 1908 came to Bancroft and engaged in the general store business, which he still follows as proprietor of the leading establishment of its kind at this point. His store, which is rented from the Woodmen, is well stocked with popularly-priced and up-to-date goods, and through straightforward and honest business methods and a superior quality of stock he has built up an excellent trade among the people of Bancroft and the surrounding territory. Formerly Mr. Manley was interested in a meat market, but disposed of his interests therein and now gives his entire attention to his general store business. He is the owner of a comfortable home and the property upon which it stands, as well as five other residential lots. He has always been active in the cause of education, and at present is serving as school clerk, and it has been largely through his efforts that Bancroft now has a consolidated school instead of the little rural school that was here at the time of his arrival. For ten years Mr. Manley has served as a notary public. With his wife and son he attends the Baptist Church and has generously supported its movements.

Mr. Manley was married August 4, 1901, to Miss Elizabeth Young, of Buena Vista Township, Portage County, and to this union there has been one son, Monroe, aged fifteen years, who is attending school.

JAMES LEONARD MOBERG. Of the men who direct the destinies of the press of Portage County, one of the most prominent is James Leonard Moberg, editor and proprietor for the past twelve years of the Amherst Advocate. Mr. Moberg has been a printer and practical newspaper man almost as far back as his recollections extend.

He was born at Amherst October 17, 1881, and most of his career has been spent in the village of his birth. He is a son of Andrew and Emilie (Buck) Moberg. His paternal grandparents were natives of Sweden, and his grandfather died in that country. Andrew Moberg came to America as a child with his mother in 1846. She died in New York City and in 1865 he came to Stevens Point and in the fall of the same year located in the village of Amherst. When he located in Portage County he had just completed a period of service as a Union soldier with Company E of the Seventy-First Illinois Infantry. By trade he was a harness maker, and followed that work and also kept a general store at Amherst for many years. He also filled the office of postmaster for fifteen years, and though now retired from

active responsibilities is one of the most esteemed of the older residents of the town. His wife was born in New York State, a daughter of Charles E. and Harriett E. (Darling) Buck. They came west in 1845, settling in Washington County, Wisconsin, and in 1855 near the village of Amherst, where they spent the rest of their days as farmers. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Moberg are active in the Methodist Episcopal Church. They had nine children: Chester E., deceased; Harriet B.; Lorenzo P.; Lucy A.; Charles H., deceased; James L.; Adelbert; Theresa G.; and George S.

James L. Moberg is one of the boys of Amherst who grew up here, attended the local schools and high school, and he gained his first knowledge of the printing art in his home town. As a journeyman he worked in various places, but in 1905 bought the Amherst Advocate and has done much to build up the influence and prestige of that valuable local journal, and has not only made it a medium of news but valuable as an asset to the business community.

Mr. Moberg married in 1910 Miss Jessica Paul. She is a native of Waupaca County. They have one child, Marjorie Lea.

LAYTON T. FOX. Fox is a family name in Portage County around which have gathered many associations due to long residence, success in business affairs and honorable participation in those movements and activities which are most vitally connected with the general welfare of the community.

A prominent member of this family is Layton T. Fox of Plover Township, who has spent practically all his life in this locality. He was born in the village of Plover February 25, 1860. When he was nine years old his parents moved from the village to a farm in the same township, and he was educated partly in the village schools and partly in those of the country. He had plenty of practice in those occupations requiring strength, agility and endurance in the great lumber industry of Wisconsin. He worked in the woods, around sawmills and as a log driver on the river until he was about twenty-two years old. Mr. Fox then acquired forty acres of the old homestead, and has since added another forty acres, making a very complete and model farm. When he took up his residence at his present place about fifteen years ago he lived in a log house, but has gradually increased his comforts, has erected good buildings, and has made his farm very productive of crops and good livestock. Mr. Fox is a republican and has served as a member of the local school board. He is affiliated with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and attends the United Brethren Church.

February 22, 1882, he married Miss Nettie Durfee, of Plover Township. Mrs. Fox died in 1883, and her only child, Archie, died in infancy. On March 6, 1887, Mr. Fox married Miss Hattie Maria Slack. Mrs. Fox was born in New York State August 13, 1868, daughter of George Henry and Catherine (Doney) Slack, who came from New York State to Buena Vista Township of Portage County about 1877 and later located in Plover Township. Her parents finally removed to Wyoming, where her father died in 1907 and where her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Fox are the parents of seven children, named in order of birth Flossie Edna, Lottie, Berton G., Layton T., Jr., George A., Katie B. and Victor F. Flossie Edna is the wife of Victor Ward of Amhurst Junction and she is the mother



of four children, named Herbert, Hattie, Layton and Blanche. Lottie married Bert Ward, of Arnott, Wisconsin. Bert Ward is a butter maker. They have two sons, Charles and Walter. Berton G. Fox married Nellie J. Gustin, and their only child is Gerald Gustin. Mr. Fox's son Layton T., Jr., who became a member of the Fifth Company of the Depot Brigade at Camp Grant, Illinois, has seen much active service overseas. George A. Fox is also in the United States Army, at Fort Pershing, Fort Bliss, Texas.

LOUIS PETER SCHUWEILER was born in Stevens Point March 5, 1887, son of Charles and Margaret (Sossang) Schuweiler. His father was a native of Belgium and his mother a native of Germany. Charles Schuweiler was an early settler at Stevens Point, locating there prior to the Civil war. For a number of years he rafted food supplies on the river for the Indian reservation and also worked in the saw mills. He married at Stevens Point, and he and his wife had three sons, Nicholas, John and Louis Peter. In politics he was a democrat and a member of the Catholic Church. He died November 1, 1917, from heart trouble.

Louis P. Schuweiler grew up at Stevens Point, attended the public and parochial schools, and when little more than a boy found work in a paper mill. Later he was retail clerk in a store for eight years, and for two years sold insurance. In November, 1915, Mr. Schuweiler entered business in partnership with A. J. Sprague, under the firm name of Badger Sales Company, operating a general store. On June 1, 1916, Mr. Schuweiler bought out his partner and afterward changed it to the Schuweiler Novelty Company, handling a number of specialties in merchandise, and intended gradually to convert it into a musical instrument and musical goods store. His business headquarters were at 1019 South Division Street. He discontinued this business June 11, 1918, and is now employed in the mechanical department of the Soo line in Stevens Point.

Mr. Schuweiler was elected an alderman from the Fifth Ward in 1915, and at that time was the youngest alderman ever elected to the city council at Stevens Point. He was re-elected in 1917, and is justifying the confidence of his supporters by the able work he is doing in handling city affairs. He is independent in politics. Mr. Schuweiler resides at 813 Church Street and has lived there and owned the property for a number of years.

June 1, 1909, he married Miss Susan Danelski. She was born in Hull Township of Portage County in 1894, daughter of a prosperous farmer of that community, Frank Danelski. Mr. and Mrs. Schuweiler have two children: Eleanor Gladys, born November 11, 1910; and Irene Susan, born July 1, 1914.

JACOB SIMONIS. After many years passed in energetic farming operations the average Portage County farmer is generally loath to give up his activities entirely. When he does turn them over to younger shoulders, however, and retire to some nearby town or village to pass the evening of life in peace and quietude, it is generally found that he proves a valuable addition to the community and that the experience which he has had amid his fields and pastures has well fitted him for participation in the affairs of life, giving him a broad outlook, an easy tolerance and a desire to advance and help his

locality. Among the men who have gone into retirement after having spent a long period of years in farming is found Jacob Simonis, whose pleasant home is situated in the attractive little community of Rosholt.

Mr. Simonis was born in 1849, in the State of Pennsylvania, and is a son of Matt and Mary Ann (Krause) Simonis. His parents were born in Bavaria, Germany, where they were married, and about the year 1827 immigrated to the United States and first settled in New Jersey. Next they went to Pennsylvania, where they found a large colony of their countrymen, and continued to make their home in the Keystone State until 1854, when they came to Wisconsin. Their first location here was at Stevens Point, but shortly thereafter Mr. Simonis bought a farm about one mile north of that place, in what is now known as Hull Township. While residing there the father spent a part of his time in shaving shingles, and was also widely known throughout that part of the country as a famous hunter and sure shot. Subsequently he went to Sharon Township and located about three miles north of Polin Corners, where he had two farms and spent about seventeen years, and then went to Oregon. After three years spent in that state he came back to Portage County and settled in Anherst Township, where he owned a farm of 160 acres. There he passed the remainder of his life in industrious agricultural operations, and died on that farm, which is now owned by his son Nick. Mrs. Simonis survived her husband several years and passed away at Stevens Point. They were the parents of the following children: Lena, Fred, John and Mary, who are all deceased; Mary Ann, deceased; Jacob, Minnie, Matt, Louis, Anna and Nick. Mr. and Mrs. Simonis were members of the Catholic Church and lived their faith. The father assisted in the founding of one of the early churches of that denomination in Sharon Township.

Few advantages were found in the youth of Jacob Simonis. From boyhood he was asked to work hard to assist in the support of his parents' large family, and for this reason there was practically no opportunity for him to secure an education. He was a bright and industrious youth, however, picked up information readily and was a keen observer, and as he has passed through life has done more or less studying of one or another nature, so that today he possesses a broad fund of useful knowledge. When he began life on his own account it was as a farmer in Sharon Township, and there he remained until he accompanied his parents to Oregon. After six months he became dissatisfied with the country in which he found himself and accordingly, with his family, retraced his steps to Portage County and located in the woods in Alban Township. His first purchase there consisted of forty acres, and when this was cleared and under cultivation he added a like amount to it. In this way he succeeded in the accumulation of 280 acres, nearly all of which is now cleared, work which was done by Mr. Simonis and the members of his family. He also erected the first buildings which were ever put on this land, and which have since been replaced with modern structures, fitted with the latest modern improvements, comforts and conveniences. Mr. Simonis resided on that property for more than thirty years, having located there in 1877 and continuing to make it his home until 1908. In the latter year he retired to the village of Rosholt, where he built his present home. The farm is now being conducted by Mr. Simonis' son

Louis Leander, who is a general farmer specializing in the raising of Guernsey cattle.

Mr. Simonis was married in 1872 to Miss Elizabeth Nice, who was born in the State of New York, daughter of Nicholas and Elizabeth Nice, natives of Germany, who on their arrival in America came directly to Stevens Point, when there were but two or three shacks to mark that village. From Stevens Point after a short time they went to Sharon Township and rented land, and it was while living on the rented farm that the Civil war came on. Mr. Nice was drafted in the Union army and fought under Captain Sherman until the close of the war, when he returned to his family in Sharon Township. He then purchased land there and cleared and improved a farm, and there the remainder of his life was passed, as well as that of his wife. They were the parents of the following children: Nick, Peter, Fred, Mary, Elena, Elizabeth, Maggie, Emma and Teigla.

Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Simonis, and of these all are living, namely: Maggie, Lena, Henry, Fred, Leander, Ella, August and Raymond. The family belongs to the Catholic Church. Mr. Simonis is not an office seeker, but has always been willing to fulfill the duties of citizenship and while engaged in farming in Alban Township served for a number of years in the capacity of treasurer of his school district.

**JOHAN N. LOBERG.** This is the name of one of the oldest settlers of Amherst Township, and it has relationship by marriage and otherwise with probably half of the substantial families of that section of Portage County.

Mr. Loberg was born in Norway August 2, 1837, a son of Nels T. and Bertha Loberg. When he was twelve years of age in 1849 his family came to America, and the parents settled in Ashippun Township of Dodge County. They spent the rest of their years in that section of Wisconsin. The father bought land, cleared and improved it, and had a good farm before his death. In the family were about a dozen children, and four sons and three daughters came to America. Their names were: Thomas, who spent his life in Dodge County; Simon; John; Johan N.; Taran; Anna Maria and Kirsten Maria. The only ones now living are Johan and Kirsten. All but Thomas moved to Portage County, settling in Amherst and New Hope townships.

The Norwegian schools supplied Johan N. Loberg with most of his early training, and he also attended a few terms after coming to Wisconsin. He remained with his parents in Dodge County for about ten years, but about the time he reached his majority he came to Portage County and bought 120 acres where he still lives. In 1858 he cleared a few acres, erected a small house, and in 1859 came to the land to take possession, and his home has been in that one community now for nearly sixty years. Mr. Loberg's business as a farmer was steadily prospered, and later he acquired considerable more land but has sold all of that. He began with a very humble equipment of buildings but subsequently built a very substantial home and barns and has introduced from time to time much modern and up to date equipment. Formerly he specialized in Holstein cattle, but is now handling graded and full blood Guernseys.

In 1859 Mr. Loberg married Miss Anna Marie Skowen. Ten

children were born to their union: Nels; Anna Bertha, now deceased; Carl; Anton; Anna Bertha; Emma; Ida; Julius and Johannes, both deceased; and Julius.

Besides his business as a farmer Mr. Loberg has identified himself with most of the community activities. He assisted in organizing the old New Hope Lutheran Church and was one of the men who built the first church edifice. For many years he was a supervisor in Amherst Township, and he helped organize and was on the first board of directors of the Nelsonville Creamery. He is now financially interested in the New Hope Butter and Cheese Association. Mr. Loberg also has an honorable military record, having enlisted in Company B of the Forty-sixth Wisconsin Infantry from Amherst Township, and was with his command in several campaigns and in many engagements of the Civil war.

Mrs. Johan N. Loberg is a daughter of Knut Larson and Anne Isaacsdatter (Loberg) Skowen, both natives of Norway. The Skowen family came to America in 1858, lived in Waukesha County five years, and then with wagon and ox team invaded the partly cleared wilderness of Portage County. They located on a farm where their son Isaac now lives in Amherst Township. This land had been bought by Mr. Skowen in the fall of 1862, but was not occupied as a home until the spring of the following year. The only improvements were a clearing of about ten acres, about half of which had been put under the plow. Here Mr. and Mrs. Skowen lived until death, and many improvements marked the passing years. The first home was a log house and the frame structures of that building now constitute the frame of the main part of the present Skowen residence. Mr. Skowen in the old country had learned the trade of carpenter and wagon-maker, and for many years he kept a shop on his farm and his services were frequently employed in the building work of the community. Among other structures he helped erect the home schoolhouse. While in Waukesha County he lived on a rented farm and worked at his trade.

There were four children in the Skowen family: Lars, a resident of Amherst Township; Anna Marie, Mrs. Loberg; Marin, Mrs. Isaac Olson, of Nelsonville; and Isaac, who occupies the old farm in Amherst Township. The children Lars and Anna came to America together about 1855, and for a time lived in Dodge County before joining their parents in Portage County. Knut L. Skowen was also one of the early settlers who organized the old New Hope Lutheran Church.

MARTIN E. MOE has been satisfied to concentrate his activities along the lines of farming and stock raising and on the land where he was born and where he was reared and where practically all the years of his life so far have been spent. He is one of the substantial factors in the agricultural and dairying prosperity of Amherst Township and owns one of the largest individual farms in that part of the county.

His birth occurred there October 4, 1873. He is a son of Ole A. and Gunild (Usler) Moe. Both parents were natives of Norway and came to America when still single. Ole A. Moe was ten years of age when brought to this country by his father, Aslak Moe, who had lost his wife in Norway. The first settlement made by the Moes in Wisconsin was in Ashippen Township of Dodge County. Aslak Moe

spent his last years with his son Ole in Portage County. Ole A. Moe after reaching manhood came to Portage County and acquired a tract of land in Amherst Township, probably direct from the Government. He cleared and improved this, and made a good farm before his death. He and his wife had four children, all still living, named Clara, Effie, Martin and Lizzie. Ole Moe helped organize the old New Hope Lutheran Church.

Martin E. Moe, only son of his parents, acquired such advantages as were furnished by the local public schools. With the exception of one year spent in Oregon he has always had his home on the land which his father cleared. He now owns a large farm of 300 acres in one body, forty acres of it being in New Hope Township and the rest in Amherst Township. He is making this land produce some of the crops which give Portage County its standing among the agricultural sections of Wisconsin. In the line of stock he gives his chief attention to grade Guernsey cattle. He is also financially interested in the Nelsonville Creamery, which his father helped organize.

In 1904 Mr. Moe married Josephine Ekeland. She was born in Scandinavia Township of Waupaca County, daughter of Nels Ekeland. Mr. and Mrs. Moe have three children: Gertrude, Myron and Charles, all of whom are at home and are receiving good training in the local schools. The family are members of the Nelsonville Lutheran Church.

JAMES M. FOGARTY. In James M. Fogarty there is found a sample of the kind of material which is maintaining the prestige established by the elder generation, and to which Portage County must look for its future agricultural and business development. Still a member of the younger farming element, with his best years before him, he is already the owner of 240 acres of some of the best land in Carson Township, and has business connections that in former years were only assumed by those who were far more advanced in years.

Mr. Fogarty belongs to the class of farmers of the county who have passed their entire lives within its limits and who still carry on operations on the land on which they were born. His birthplace was the family homestead on section 26, Carson Township, and his natal date May 27, 1885, his parents being James Fogarty and his wife, Johanna (Sweeney) Fogarty. James Fogarty, the elder, was born in Tipperary, Ireland, in 1845, and was a youth of fourteen years when he immigrated to America, his first home being in Canada. From our northern neighbor he came to the United States after several years and for a short time lived in New York, but found the East too confining and accordingly pushed on to Wausau, Wisconsin, where he arrived when still a young man. Next he came to Stevens Point, and in 1884 became the owner of the family homestead in Carson Township, the family taking up their residence thereon on Thanksgiving Day. Mr. Fogarty worked his land industriously and intelligently and succeeded in developing a good property, which he improved with excellent buildings and farming appurtenances, and where he still makes his home, although he now lives in retirement and has for the past seven years. He is a democrat in politics and is religiously connected with the Catholic Church, of which Mrs. Fogarty was also a member. She was born at Hartford, Wisconsin, in 1851.

married Mr. Fogarty at Stevens Point, and died on the homestead place March 4, 1910. They were the parents of the following children: Mary; Thomas, who is deceased; Margaret, who resides with her father; Catherine; William; and James M.

James M. Fogarty was reared on the home farm and was brought up to be industrious, straightforward and trustworthy, to never despise honest labor and to practice thrift without being penurious. His education came from the district schools of Carson Township, and when he reached man's estate he was well trained in both body and mind to accept the responsibilities of an agricultural career. In 1911, when his father desired to retire from active life, Mr. Fogarty bought the homestead of 120 acres, and five years later he added the 120 acres which lie to the south of the original purchase. In addition to carrying on general farming in a progressive and intensive way he has met with much success in breeding graded Holstein cattle, this department of his work having proved remarkably prosperous in the past several years. He is a believer in up-to-date methods and ideas in farm work, but new innovations must be practical before they can attract his interest. Mr. Fogarty is also well known in business circles of this locality. His 240-acre farm entitles him to some attention among men who appreciate what the accumulation of valuable land of this nature means, and he also has a recognized place as president of the Mill Creek Cheese and Butter Factory, the conduct of which he is managing in an able manner. In politics he is a democrat, but he has had no time to seek preference at the hands of his fellow-citizens in the way of looking for a place in the public limelight. He was reared in the faith of the Catholic Church and still continues to hold true to that creed. In the civic affairs of this locality he takes the interest of every good citizen who has the welfare of his community at heart and matters pertaining to progress, particularly along the lines of education and good roads, have his attention and support.

Mr. Fogarty was married June 5, 1906, to Miss Anna Gross, who was born at Eau Pleine, Wisconsin, July 26, 1885, a daughter of Victor and Anna (Simmons) Gross, of Stevens Point. Mrs. Fogarty was educated in the public schools of Stevens Point, where she was graduated from the high school with the class of 1903, and prior to her marriage was for three years engaged in teaching, becoming a popular educator here. To Mr. and Mrs. Fogarty there have been born four children, all living: Thomas, Agnes, Anna and John.

JACOB T. WALLER, of New Hope Township, is a man whose experience makes him acquainted with both the old and the new in Portage County agricultural practice and methods. When he was a boy he frequently drove the ox teams which his father used to break and plow the ground and in those days he never even dreamed of half the efficient and marvelous instruments and implements with which he carries on his present day farm operations. While Mr. Waller has not yet introduced a tractor among his agricultural machinery, he does use an automobile as a means of quick transportation for himself and family.

He was born in New Hope Township of this county in June, 1868, a son of Abram and Ingeborg (Balstad) Waller. His father, now one of the aged citizens of Portage County, came here in 1861 and

acquired a tract of eighty acres, which was developed by his hard physical exertions. The old farm is now owned and operated by his son Jacob, who has added to some of the building improvements which his father made here. Abram Waller's wife died about twenty years ago. Their children were: Hannah, Mrs. A. A. Peterson; Anna, deceased; Henry, deceased; Jacob; Hans, who died in infancy; Emilie, deceased; Clara, Mrs. Westring; Adolph, deceased; and Ida, Mrs. Leppen.

Mr. Jacob T. Waller owns a farm of 101 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres of land. About fifteen acres are in woodland and swamp, but all the rest is under the plow and in a fine state of cultivation. Besides general farming he has a dairy, and for a number of years he has been numbered among the real producers of agricultural wealth in Portage County.

In a public way he is serving as clerk of the school board in district No. 3. He is an active member of the Lutheran Church at Nelsonville.

November 10, 1898, Mr. Waller married Maren Ordahl. She is a native of Norway, where her parents spent all their lives. She and her sister were the only members of her family to come to America. Mr. and Mrs. Waller became the parents of six children: Marvel, deceased; Arnold, Henry, Joseph, Orin and Edna, all at home. Among other interests Mr. Waller is a shareholder in the Farmers Potato Company.

REV. HENRY J. EHR was born in Central Wisconsin, and in his work as a pastor of the Catholic Church in various localities has had the advantage of knowing his people from the point of view of a native of the state, familiar with all the conditions and environment in which he grew up. Father Ehr is looked upon as a fixture in the citizenship of Stevens Point, where for many years he has been at the head of the large and prosperous congregation of St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

He was born in Columbia County, Wisconsin, Lewiston Township, near the City of Portage, April 1, 1873. His grandparents, Peter and Catherine (Weber) Ehr, were born in the Rhine Valley of Germany, Peter in 1794 and his wife in 1797.

Hilarius Ehr, father of the Rev. Mr. Ehr, was born near Treves, Germany, June 1, 1832. In 1853 he left home and family and immigrated to New York City. He worked there a year and then went to Medina in Western New York, where he was naturalized and where in 1854 he was joined by his three brothers, John, Peter and Nicholas, as well as by his sister, Mary, and parents. At Medina, New York, in 1858, he married Elizabeth Eberhart, who was born in Germany November 1, 1837, and had come to America with a sister at the age of eighteen years. For several years Hilarius Ehr owned and operated a stone quarry at Medina, New York, but in 1862, with other members of the family, he came west and located in Columbia County, Wisconsin. There he and his brothers secured several hundred acres of land, cleared it up, and thereafter he followed farming until age came upon him. For the past eight years he has lived retired in Portage City and both parents are unusually strong and hearty for people who have passed the age of fourscore. In 1908, with children and grandchildren around them, they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Hilarius Ehr is a republican in politics, and has

been honored with various local offices in Wisconsin. He and his wife are devout Catholics. Hilarius Ehr enlisted as a soldier of the Union in 1864 and was in service until October, 1865, when he was granted his honorable discharge. He was in the Eighth Wisconsin Infantry, under Lieutenant Johnson and Captain James O'Neal. Hilarius Ehr was one of the founders of St. Xavier's Catholic Church at Portage. He and his wife had nine children: Peter, John, Hilarius, Charles, Christian, Henry J., Mathias, Anna and Josephine, all living except Charles, who died in February, 1893.

Henry J. Ehr spent his boyhood and youth on the old home farm in Columbia County, Wisconsin. His training was that of the local public schools and one year in parochial school at Milwaukee. He also attended college at Mount Calvary, Wisconsin, for three years, and then entered St. Francis Seminary, where he pursued the classical, philosophical and theological courses and on June 20, 1897, was ordained a priest. For six months he was assistant to Father Henry Wilmes at St. Mary's Church in Milwaukee, for about six months was substitute pastor at Hilbert in St. Mary's Church, and in 1898 went to Hortonville, Wisconsin, as pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul Church. He was there until September 20, 1902, and his first regular pastorate was marked by much constructive work and growth, among other things a rectory having been built during his pastorate.

On September 20, 1902, Father Ehr came to Stevens Point and assumed the duties which have continued so pleasantly and profitably ever since as pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. On October 24, 1915, the old church building, where more than a generation of people had worshiped, was burned, but there was no hesitation upon the part of either pastor or parishioners in restoring the edifice, and on December 17, 1916, the handsome new church was dedicated. Father Ehr has also constructed a new rectory and he carried out many other important improvements during the fourteen years before the old church was burned. In 1904-05 the Sisters' home and school were remodeled and in 1905 a free school was established. Father Ehr is a dynamo of human energy, and has worked indefatigably and sincerely for the benefit and welfare of his parish and the city in general. His church is something for which the city is to be proud.

MARK NELSON has figured in the commercial activities of Portage County for the past twenty years as the leading merchant of the village of Benson's Corners. Mr. Nelson came to America in young manhood, with no money, practically without friends in the new world, and has worked his way up steadily, relying always upon the industry of his hands and his good judgment and has attained a most substantial place in his chosen community of Portage County.

He was born in Ostre Gausdal, Norway, March 26, 1868, a son of Engebret and Marit (Torgesdatter) Gjefsen. His father and mother died in the old country. His father was both a farmer and a dealer in livestock. Their family of seven children, three sons and four daughters, are all still living.

Mark Nelson received his early education in the Norwegian public schools. He was twenty-one years of age and still unmarried when in 1889 he set out to find his fortune in America. He came direct to Amherst, Wisconsin, and secured his first employment as a railroad section hand. Ten months later he went to work for J. J. Nelson in



a store at Amherst and was with that old time merchant about 5½ years, thereby gaining the fundamentals of business training which have been extremely useful to him later. This commercial career was interrupted by a period of about one year spent as a farm worker at Revillo, South Dakota. From there he returned to Wisconsin, and in Outagamie County clerked two years in the store of M. D. Leeman at Leeman Postoffice. In the meantime he had exercised due thrift and then combined his experience with his modest capital and bought the store of Benson Brothers at Benson's Corners in Amherst Township. That transaction occurred in 1898, and since that date the business has been continued with a marked degree of success by Mr. Nelson, who conducts a thoroughly modern store, handling all the commodities required by the surrounding country community. In addition to his duties as merchant he was also postmaster of Benson's Corners until the postoffice was abandoned through the introduction of rural mail delivery service.

In 1898, the same year he came to Benson's Corners, Mr. Nelson married Miss Ida Holmes, of Shawano County, Wisconsin. They are the parents of four children, all of whom are still in the home circle, named: Sylvester, Iva, Myra and Victor. The family are members of the Lutheran Church at New Hope.

THOMAS ZMICH has spent nearly all his life in Portage County, has proved an industrious and capable citizen, and for over thirty years has directed the operations of one of the good farms in Hull Township.

He was born in Illinois November 2, 1860, and in the following year his parents, Michael and Kate Zmich, came to Portage County. His parents were both born in Poland, and settled at Chicago, Illinois, in 1854. When they moved to Portage County they bought eighty acres of land included in the present homestead of their son Thomas. They were real pioneers and had the industry and the perseverance to develop a tract of wild land into a good farm. Gradually their possessions grew until they had 200 acres. Their first home was a log house, but long before they died they enjoyed ample comforts. The good mother died here in 1885, while Michael Zmich passed away July 13, 1902. He was a very sturdy and upright citizen in whom the community had complete confidence and he was for many years chairman of the township board and for twenty years was clerk of his school district. In the family were six children, Frank, Peter, Thomas, Anton, Joseph and Alexander.

Mr. Thomas Zmich grew up on the farm where he still lives and as a boy attended the little red schoolhouse in the same neighborhood. His industrious efforts as a farmer have brought him prosperity and he now owns 160 acres with good buildings and other improvements. He is a democrat but has never sought official cares and responsibilities. He and family are members of the Polish Catholic Church.

June 6, 1885, Mr. Zmich married Miss Mary Gebbel, who was born in Germany in 1867, daughter of Anton and Helen Gebbel. Her parents were early settlers in Hull Township and her father is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five. His father, Mrs. Zmich's grandfather, lived to the remarkable age of 103 years. Mr. and Mrs. Zmich have four children: Rosa, born in 1896, married Alexander Ligman, and their three children are Gertie, aged three years,

Peter, two years old, and Herman, who was born in 1918. The second child of Mr. and Mrs. Zmich, Annie, was born July 4, 1904, while Walter was born August 2, 1907, and Gertie, August 22, 1911.

THOMAS HENRY HANNA. To plan ambitiously, to labor faithfully and to finally succeed, covers the personal history of more than one distinguished man, and interest abides in this history because of its varying but common elements that belong to general experience. While ambitions are not always realized, nor is faithful labor always adequately rewarded, success that is worth while never comes otherwise, and undoubtedly it is best under all circumstances to keep on and cherish the hope that the door of opportunity will open just beyond the next turning. Had this not been the attitude of one of Portage County's most honored citizens during a hard-pushed, self-denying youth he might never have won the prominent place he now holds as a leader in public affairs in Portage County and as the foremost member of the bar at Stevens Point. Readers of this history will not fail to recognize Hon. Thomas Henry Hanna, formerly mayor of Stevens Point and, according to his friends, a very possible candidate for further political honors.

Thomas Henry Hanna was born May 17, 1867, at Belleville in St. Clair County, Illinois. His parents were Henry and Bridget (Dunneagan) Hanna, natives of County Mayo, Ireland, where the father was born February 2, 1833, and the mother, June 10, 1839.

When Henry Hanna was twelve years old he accompanied his father, Isaac Hanna, to America, his mother having died in Ireland in 1838. The travelers were bound for the port of New York by way of Quebec, Canada. The father never reached New York, dying in 1846, at Quebec. Young Henry proceeded on his journey and after reaching the great city, alone and friendless, had to carve out his own fortune. He had a natural talent for mechanics and this led to his learning to be an engineer, and through that trade his subsequent life was for a number of years one of danger and adventure and at the same time identified him with stirring events in those days of national development. When the Civil war broke out he was an engineer on a Mississippi River boat then at Memphis, Tennessee. He enlisted for service as an engineer in the Federal navy and served in that capacity until overtaken by serious illness after the fleet had reached Vicksburg. After the war he continued to work as an engineer, laboring in coal mines, for a short time being an engineer in the famous coal district around Belleville, and also near St. Louis, Missouri, and later was an engineer on the old Terre Haute Railroad that is now a part of the Wabash system.

Long before these experiences, away back in 1854, Henry Hanna had visited Waupaca County, Wisconsin, and while there had pre-empted eighty acres of Government land, and to this land he returned in June, 1867. He was one of the early permanent settlers of Little Wolf Township and in time became one of its representative citizens. He was one of the founders and liberal supporters of the Episcopal Church there and was at the head of numerous enterprises that were beneficial to the public. All his life an ardent democrat, his party loyalty as well as his good citizenship was many times recognized by election to public office and he served for many years as chairman of the board of supervisors of Little Wolf Township. He was a charter

member of Elberton Lodge No. 271, Odd Fellows, at Manawa, Wisconsin. In 1861 he was married to Bridget Dunnegan, who survived him, dying May 16, 1917. His death occurred October 16, 1902. They had four children: Elizabeth Ann, Thomas Henry, John William and Mary E.

Thomas Henry Hanna was an infant when his parents settled on the pioneer farm in Waupaca County. He attended school in Little Wolf Township as opportunity offered until he was fifteen years old and then began the hard life of a woodsman, and during the summers afterward worked at lumbering on the river. He early had begun to cherish an ambition for an educated profession and early realized, also, that in order to secure a higher education he would be compelled to exercise courage and self denial. Thus, while pursuing his laborious calling, he attended the high school at Manawa whenever he found opportunity, but was not able to complete the high school course before he was twenty-five years of age. It was some time later before he was prepared to enter Lawrence University, at Appleton, where he was a most diligent student for 3½ years, subsequently applying himself to the study of law in offices at Manawa, Wisconsin, and at Dixon, Illinois.

After ten years of strenuous labor in the lumber regions and on the river, and after equally strenuous work with his books, in May, 1897, Mr. Hanna was admitted to the bar of Illinois and subsequently to the bar of Wisconsin, with a right to feel victorious, because he had stubbornly contested every step of the way with adverse circumstances. He entered into practice at Manawa but in January, 1899, came to Stevens Point and this place has been his preferred home ever since. During the first six years Mr. Hanna was a member of the law firm of McFarland, Hanna & Murat, then for two years was senior member of the law firm of Hanna & Secklesteel, and since 1915 has been in partnership with George B. Nelson, as Nelson & Hanna. In his profession Mr. Hanna has proved able, eloquent, safe and honorable and has built up a professional reputation that has made his name familiar in many parts of the state.

Mr. Hanna was married March 23, 1898, in Fond du Lac County, to Miss Amelia C. Otto, of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and they have one son, Thomas Charles, who was born April 26, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Hanna are members of the Episcopal Church.

In 1904 Mr. Hanna was elected mayor of Stevens Point, and during his admirable administration of four years civic reforms were brought about, many public improvements took permanent form and innumerable worthy enterprises were founded and encouraged. Not only the democratic party but citizens generally have confidence in the ripe judgment and personal integrity of Mr. Hanna, in his legal worth, sound patriotism and generous sympathies, and there is a general feeling that high public responsibilities would be safe in his hands. Devoted, however, to his profession, Mr. Hanna has thus far turned a deaf ear to his democratic friends when they have suggested the race for Congress or the gubernatorial chair. Busy as he is, Mr. Hanna finds time to attend to numerous local public-spirited duties and is very active as president of the Business Men's Association of Stevens Point. Fraternally he is identified with the Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

MICHAEL BANNACH has been a resident farmer and property owner of Portage County for over forty years, is one of the highly esteemed citizens of Stockton Township, but the crowning distinction of his life is the family of intellectually brilliant sons and daughters who have grown up in his home. Several of his daughters have been prominent as educators and one of them was formerly county superintendent of schools.

Mr. Bannach was born in Poland August 13, 1852, son of Casimer and Mary (Kowalski) Bannach. His parents came to America and settled in Illinois in 1873, and two years later moved to Portage County and bought eighty acres of land that is now owned by Mr. Michael Bannach. They spent their last years in Hull Township, where the father died in 1892, at the age of eighty years, and the mother in 1896, when also about fourscore. Their children were Michael, Mary, Carrie, Joseph, Frank and Josephine. Frank died in June, 1917, and Josephine is also deceased. The father was a democrat and the family active members of the Polish Catholic Church.

Michael Bannach was reared and educated in his native land and in 1872, at the age of twenty, a year before his parents, came to America and settled in Illinois. In 1876 he located in Portage County, and at that time acquired land that is now incorporated in his present farm. He also has the old place of his father and his activities as an agriculturist are now conducted on a large farm, improved with modern buildings and other facilities. He is also the owner of a 200-acre farm in Marathon County. He keeps a herd of pure-bred Holsteins. Mr. Bannach is a democrat, has served as supervisor of Stockton Township and two terms as school treasurer.

June 24, 1883, he married Miss Eva Bembenneck. She was born in Poland March 7, 1868, daughter of Frank and Catherine (Chelawski) Bembenneck. Her parents immigrated to America in 1880, spending some time in New York, and in 1882 settled north of Ellis in Sharon Township of Portage County. Her father owned a farm of 200 acres there. Mrs. Bannach's father died May 10, 1917, at the age of eighty-three, and her mother on November 4, 1917, aged eighty-four. They were devout members of the Polish Catholic Church. Their children, four in number, all living, are Adam, Eva, Joseph and Martin.

Twelve children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bannach. The first were twins, Vincent and Adam, both of whom died in infancy. The oldest of those living is Frances, born September 17, 1887. She was educated in the public schools of Stockton Township, graduated from the elementary course of the State Normal at Stevens Point in 1906 and from the advanced course in August, 1914, and also attended the University of Minnesota. She began teaching in the rural schools and in July, 1911, at the age of twenty-three, was elected county superintendent of schools. She held that office for six years, and in spite of her youth made a record of efficient administration that has seldom been equalled. She refused to accept a renomination, and on October 20, 1917, became the wife of Mr. Elmer Dickerson. Mr. Dickerson is secretary and superintendent of the lumber and veneer factory at Marshfield, Wisconsin, where he resides. The second child, Josephine, was born February 12, 1880, was educated in the country schools, graduated from Normal School in 1909, and for three years was a teacher at Marshfield. She is now the wife of Merton Vanderhoof, a

dealer in motorcycles and a city mail carrier of Marshfield. Mr. and Mrs. Vanderhoof were married in 1912 and have two children, Frances and Ramona. Marian, the third daughter, born September 7, 1891, graduated from the State Normal School in 1913, has taught in the rural schools of the county for two years and for two years was assistant principal in the Crawford County Training School, and one year county supervising teacher of Portage County, and is now county superintendent of Portage County, receiving her appointment July 18, 1918. She has also taken courses in the University of Minnesota. Florian was born April 16, 1894, was educated in the Stevens Point High School and the Normal School and is now a senior in Ripon College. He enlisted May 14, 1918, took the mechanic's course at Lansing University, Michigan, was transferred to Camp Hancock, where he was granted a commission as second lieutenant, and was discharged December 28, 1918. Otylia, born November 28, 1897, is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and attended the Normal until illness compelled her to give up her studies. John was born March 25, 1899, and is now a senior in the Stevens Point High School. Henry, born July 10, 1902, graduated from the eighth grade of the public schools in 1917. The two youngest of the family are Emil and Amelia, twins, born February 27, 1904, now students of the grade school at Custer.

CHARLES STEINKE. Portage County has gone through several periods of development. At first it was pre-eminently a lumber center and when the forest was cleared away the efforts at agriculture were largely limited to grain raising and only incidentally the growing of livestock. Now the progressive element among the agriculturists are paying more and more attention to good livestock. One of the men whose success is largely due to the capable and methodical working out of a plan of general farming, including crops and high class livestock, is Mr. Charles Steinke of Grant Township, whose home is on rural route No. 6 out of Stevens Point. Mr. Steinke has a large farm, acquired gradually through the industry of a quarter of a century, and his specialty is high-grade Holstein and Guernsey cattle and he is owner of one of the few herds of thoroughbred Chester White swine found in the county. He also grows sheep and wool.

Mr. Steinke has lived in Portage County most of his life, but was born at Milwaukee December 22, 1874, a son of Fred and Minnie (Riebesthal) Steinke. His parents were both natives of Germany. The mother came to Milwaukee with her father, John Riebesthal, whose wife had died in Germany, and he passed away in Ozaukee County, Wisconsin, at the age of eighty years. Fred Steinke arrived in Milwaukee about 1869, and married Minnie Riebesthal in that city. In 1881 the family came to Portage County and located in Grant Township, where they acquired 120 acres in section 21, and also eighty acres of marsh land. Fred Steinke developed this farm with good buildings and cleared away much of the brush and timber. He was a man of substance and thrifty citizenship and his death in 1892, at the age of fifty-nine, meant a distinct loss to the community. His wife passed away in 1904 aged sixty-one. They were members of the Lutheran Church. Fred Steinke married his first wife in Germany and she died in Milwaukee, leaving one son, Theodore, who is now living in Waukausha County and by his marriage to Minnie Witt has

six children, all living, named: Edwin, Laura, Ella, Lillie, John and Irwin. Fred and Minnie Steinke became the parents of five children. Emma, the oldest, died in July, 1915, the wife of Charles Henke, and left four children named Clara, John, Edwin and Leonia. The second in age is Mr. Charles Steinke. William, who died in 1904, married Annie Hanke and their three children were Fred, Mary and Albert. Henry, a resident of Grant Township, married Bertha Novack and has children: Ida, Alma, Clara, Mabel and Robert, all still living except Robert. Robert, the fourth of the family, died in 1910 at the age of twenty-six. Albert died at the age of eight years.

Mr. Charles Steinke received his first schooling in Milwaukee. He also attended the public schools of Grant Township, and has been steadily giving his energies to farming since early youth. In 1892, at the age of eighteen, he acquired his first land, 120 acres in section 13, township 22, of Grant Township. This land has been steadily increased under his management and his farm now comprises 440 acres. It is improved with good buildings and has every facility for good and efficient farming.

Mr. Steinke is a republican, has served a number of years on the school board, and is now in his third successive year as chairman of the township board. He and his family are all Lutherans.

October 12, 1898, he married Miss Martha Knut, who was born in Germany May 2, 1881, and was three years old when in 1883 her parents, Charles and Tina (Kauth) Knut, came to Portage County. They settled in Grant Township and her father developed a fine farm of 300 acres. Her mother died in 1909 at the age of forty-eight and her father is now living retired at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin. Mrs. Steinke was one of a family of children, as follows: Annie; Otto; Martha; Augusta, who died in infancy; John; Fred and Minnie, twins; Louise; William; Carl; Emma; and Ida, who died in infancy.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Steinke has been blessed with the birth of eight children, six of whom are still living. John, the oldest, died in infancy. The fifth in order of birth was Archie, who died at the age of two years. The others, named in order of age, are Della, Lydia, Louise, Carl, William and Helena.

JOHN GLICZINSKI, whose fine country home is in Sharon Township, has gained an enviable position among the progressive and successful farmer citizens of Portage County. The passing years have brought him a large degree of that material prosperity which is characteristic of this rich section of Wisconsin, and at the same time he has gained the esteem of his entire community by his good citizenship and by the contribution he has made in the shape of a splendid family of children.

Mr. Gliczinski was born in Sharon Township January 25, 1871, son of August and Augusta (Vork) Gliczinski. His parents settled in Portage County in 1870, and in 1871 moved to the farm where their son John now resides. The father died here in 1896, at the age of fifty-six, and the mother at the age of seventy-eight. August Gliczinski acquired 240½ acres of land, and had much of it cleared and improved with good buildings before his death. He and his wife had seven children, John, Viletta, Jacob, Nick, Charles, Mary and Joseph. Those now deceased are Viletta, who died in 1910, Jacob, Nick and Mary.

John Gliczinski grew up on the old home farm and gained an edu-

cation in the public schools. For a quarter of a century he has been cultivating the land on which he was reared and besides the old homestead in Sharon Township he also owns 120½ acres in Marathon County. Out of the proceeds of his farming enterprise he has constructed a notable group of buildings, including a barn 46 by 58 feet, other structures and a good substantial home. Mr. Gliczinski is a democrat and a member of the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia.

In 1897 he married Miss Agnes Visbi, who was born in Poland August 29, 1875, daughter of Joseph and Maggie Visbi. Her parents came to America and settled in Marathon County, Wisconsin, in 1894. Her father died there in 1903 and her mother in 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Gliczinski may indeed be proud of their children, twelve in number, all of whom are still living. Their names in order of birth are Martha, Annie, Emil, Frank, Theodore, Felix, Victor, Regina, Lucadia, John, Louie and Raymond. The oldest, Martha, is now the wife of Dominik Ossoske, a farmer in Dewey Township. They have two children, John and Edmond.

GEORGE H. CORRIGAN. The younger element of the agricultural industry in Portage County, upon whom rests the responsibility for the present and future prosperity of the region, is ably represented by George H. Corrigan, a native of the county, representative of one of its old and honored families, and now and for some years past profitably engaged in farming in Buena Vista Township.

Mr. Corrigan was born in section 24 of that township June 12, 1877, a son of George H. and Sarah (Kirby) Corrigan. Both parents were born at Stevens Point and both in the same year, 1856. Thus both families were pioneers in this section of the state. Mr. Corrigan's paternal grandparents were James and Leah (Russell) Corrigan, who first knew Stevens Point when it was a hamlet in the midst of the lumber woods. They soon settled on a tract of wild land in Buena Vista Township, where their efforts resulted in the clearing up of a good farm. James Corrigan died in 1880, at advanced years, and his wife passed away in 1916, aged eighty-seven.

Mr. Corrigan's maternal grandparents were Thomas and Bridget (Birmingham) Kirby. In the absence of railroads they drove into Portage County with wagon and team, and after a residence of some years in Stevens Point located in Buena Vista Township on the farm now owned by George H. Corrigan. It was Thomas Kirby who did the first work of clearing the land here. Mrs. Thomas Kirby died in March, 1912, at the age of eighty-two, while Mr. Kirby met his death accidentally at Stevens Point on April 22, 1914, when eighty-three years of age. All of their nine children are now deceased.

George H. Corrigan was reared on the old homestead at Portage County and had a public school education. During his work in the lumber woods he had a foot cut off. Though thus handicapped, he was always an alert business man, and did much buying and selling of land. He and his wife had three children: George H.; Theresa, wife of Frank Poust, of Stevens Point; and Sarah, wife of Oscar Carpenter of Buena Vista Township. The mother of these children died in 1883. George H. Corrigan later moved to Oklahoma, where he married a second wife and by her had a large family of children.

George H. Corrigan after getting his education in the public schools took up farming, and now owns eighty acres, which he has

completely developed and adapted to the uses of general farming. Besides handling this farm Mr. Corrigan is giving his attention to public duties and is now serving his third consecutive term as township treasurer. In politics he is a democrat. September 5, 1900, he married Miss Mary Hopkins. Mrs. Corrigan was born in Lanark Township of this county August 30, 1875, daughter of Michael and Mary (Timlin) Hopkins. Michael Hopkins came to Portage County with his parents, Laughlin and Bridget Hopkins, in very early days. Laughlin Hopkins was a pioneer of Lanark Township, and lived there until his death on April 1, 1896, at the age of seventy-two. His widow is still living in the old home in Lanark Township. Mary Timlin Hopkins was a daughter of Edward Timlin, who after the death of his wife in Ireland came to Portage County and was a notable figure in this locality. On October 15, 1900, when he died, he had attained the remarkable age of 101 years. He was born December 25, 1799, and nearly succeeded in living in three centuries. Longevity was evidently a characteristic of the Timlin family, since Edward Timlin had a cousin, Honora Thornton, who was also 101 years old when she died.

One of the Corrigan family that should be mentioned was an uncle of Mr. Corrigan, James Corrigan, who was educated in the old White School at Stevens Point, was an educator and is now a member of the firm McKinley & Corrigan at Hamilton, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Corrigan have had a fine family of eight children, all living but one. Their names in order of birth are: Theresa, Mary, Lawrence, Walter, James, Gertrude, Sarah, and Gwendolyn. The deceased child is Sarah.

JOSEPH JADACK is one of the prosperous farmers who live in the Junction City community and have made that one of the best and most valuable agricultural sections of Portage County.

Mr. Jadack was born in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, December 24, 1859. His father was born in Austria in 1819, and came to America in 1855, locating in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, where he bought a tract of state lands. He was a soldier of the American Union in the Civil war. He died in 1887.

Joseph Jadack married Augusta Berkel, who was born in 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Jadack came to their present place in 1895, and now have a modernly equipped farm and one of the fine country homes. Mr. Jadack has served as supervisor of his town for three years. He is a democrat and he and his family are members of the Methodist Church.

The children and grandchildren are briefly noted as follows: Bertha, whose children are Clarence, Mabel, Isabel and Charles; Emma, who has two children, Elmer and Isabelle; Emil, who has two children, Elmer and Buthela; Benjamin, who is unmarried and owns some of the best farming property in Portage County; Frank, also unmarried.

\* OSCAR U. BENEDICT, whose country home is in Linwood Township, has gained an enviable position among the progressive and successful farmer citizens of Portage County. The years have brought him a large degree of that material prosperity which is characteristic of this rich section of Wisconsin, the esteem of the community has increased in proportion to the length of his residence, and his fellow



citizens have come to rely upon him as one of the leaders in many of those movements which mark the enlightened progress of any locality.

Though Mr. Benedict has spent his most useful years in Portage County, he was born in Nebraska August 12, 1870, son of William Edward and Sarah (Bigford) Benedict, both natives of New York State. They came with their respective parents to Lamartin, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, and were married in the town of Lamartin. William E. Benedict enlisted and served in the Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry during the last three years of the Civil war, and was honorably discharged October 26, 1865. He then sold his place in Lamartin and moved to the frontier state of Nebraska, in three years sold out and went to Adams County, Iowa, and in 1884 he sold his farm and store and came to Portage County, Wisconsin, locating on a farm of 120 acres of land in Linwood. Later he again sold out and returned to Nodaway, Adams County, Iowa. Soon after his settlement in Iowa his wife died, on the eleventh day of June, 1908. He was married again in the year 1910, and is still living in Nodaway, Adams County, in advanced years. He is a republican in politics, and he and his wife were formally active in the Methodist Episcopal Church but later they joined the Church of Christ. Their children were three in number: Emma, widow of Charles Lawrence; Oscar U.; and Minnie, who died in 1884.

Oscar U. Benedict was three years old when his parents moved from Nebraska to Iowa and in that state most of his boyhood and schooling center. When he was fourteen he came to Portage County, Wisconsin, with his parents. Here he took an increasing share of responsibilities in the forest home, clearing land and cutting logs and stave bolts and hauling with an ox team, mostly used at that time. After reaching manhood he bought forty acres of land in Linwood Township and on that made the beginning of his efforts as an agriculturist. He cleared it, and did the early cultivation. At that time the roads were poor, not more than trails through the woods in this part of the country, and he lived somewhat in pioneer style, like most all of the settlers who lived in this part of the country at that time. Later he added twenty acres to his land, giving him a farm of sixty acres, and he also has eighty acres surrounding his home farm in section 7. Mr. Benedict is a practical dairyman, has twelve good dairy cows, and makes this part of his farming profitable. He is a republican and has served as supervisor of Linwood Township and for six years has been clerk of his school board. He and his wife are members of the Church of God.

August 26, 1808, Mr. Benedict married Amanda Pearl Nieman. She was born on the farm where she now resides in 1877, daughter of John and Louise (Miller) Nieman. Both parents were natives of Germany, but were married in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and soon after their marriage settled in Portage County, in Linwood Township, acquiring the land where Mr. and Mrs. Benedict now have a comfortable and prosperous farm, though at that time it was a portion of the wilderness. Mr. Nieman cleared a spot in the midst of the trees to build his first home, and as he was a skillful carpenter and cabinet-maker he put up a beautiful large house, solid and substantial, and still in use. He not only framed the timbers but he cut and fitted most of the woodwork by hand, even to making the doors and sash, which were beautifully finished with mouldings. Mr. Nieman lived

a long and honored life in Portage County, and died in 1903, at the age of eighty-one, while his widow passed away in 1911, at about the same age. Their children were: Henry, Louise, Albert, Emma, Louis, Edward and Amanda Pearl. All are living except Louis, Edward and Albert.

Mr. and Mrs. Benedict have seven children, all of them living and most of them still getting their educations in college, state normal and district schools. Their names and dates of birth are: Florence, June 14, 1899; Willie, June 28, 1901; Edyth, February 9, 1903; Amy, December 3, 1906; Evelyn, September 14, 1908; Ethel, June 4, 1912; Myrtle, August 15, 1914.

W. HENRY READING has been a factor in the business life and affairs of Stevens Point for a number of years, is head of the firm Reading & Neumann, well known all over Stevens Point for the service they render as general cartage and transfer operators, and also supplying a complete service for the city in ice, the latter being the principal department of their business. Mr. Reading's father, William Reading, is one of the oldest surviving pioneers of Portage County. He was born near Oxford, England, August 13, 1834. He came to America in 1849, landing in New York City. From there he went to Syracuse, New York, near which city he worked on a farm for a year and a half. Then he went to Skaneateles, New York, where he commenced learning the trade of blacksmith and worked in the shop a year and a half, his sole compensation for eighteen months labor being his board, \$10 in cash and a cheap suit of clothes. Quitting this trade, he hired out on a farm and for a time did chores for his board and went to school. He came to Stevens Point in 1855 and for many years thereafter his history was that of hundreds of young men, the real pioneers who felled the mighty pines and transformed the forests of the Wisconsin River Valley into productive farms and centers of industrial enterprises.

The next day after his arrival he commenced work at Jordan for Wells, Mason & McCoy in the construction of a sawmill. He worked at Jordan and in the logging woods and in rafting lumber down the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers for the next nine years. In 1864 the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry, which had been on duty in the Army of the Potomac, was reorganized and on August 20th of that year Mr. Reading enlisted in Company D of that organization, joining the regiment in the Shenandoah Valley, near Winchester town, the scene of Sheridan's famous ride. After being on duty here for some time the regiment was transferred to the James River and took part in General Grant's campaign on Petersburg and Richmond. It also joined in the pursuit of General Lee's army after these places had been evacuated, and was near Appomattox at the final surrender of Lee's army. On that memorable day, which made the whole North delirious with joy, Mr. Reading saw both Generals Grant and Lee as they passed along the road near the regiment.

Returning to Washington, the regiment took part in the Grand Review, and was finally mustered out on June 30, 1865. Returning to Jordan, Mr. Reading resumed work in the same mill he had left when he entered the army. In 1870, in company with Charles Van Order, he bought what was known as the Upper Mill on the Plover River. They operated it thirteen years and then Mr. Reading bought

out his partner and operated the mill alone for two years. In the meantime, however, and later, Mr. Reading had executed large logging contracts and in these operations and in his milling business had paid out many thousands of dollars for labor. After quitting the lumbering business he followed farming for a time and then moved to the city. For the past eleven years he has made his home with one of his sons, Henry Reading, on Normal Avenue.

On October 5, 1855, in New York, Mr. Reading married Miss Sarah Welch, who was born in Ireland in 1835. After their marriage they came to Portage County and settled at Jordan in Hull Township. Mrs. Reading died in Stevens Point in 1888. Mr. Reading is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, is a republican in politics, and at one time served as assessor in Hull Township. He is a member of the Episcopal Church, while his wife was a Catholic. They had four children, the oldest dying in infancy; Mary, who died at the age of twenty-three; Henry; and George, who lives in Stevens Point and is employed by his brother Henry.

W. Henry Reading was born at Jordan in Hull Township of this county March 31, 1861, and spent most of his boyhood days in that locality. He had a public school education and put his youthful strength to test as a worker in the lumber woods and in the sawmills. He also did logging for himself and had a number of years of practical experience in the lumbering and as foreman in lumber camps, handling large crews of men. In 1905 he and E. W. Neumann bought the ice business from Mr. C. Moen and formed a partnership in the freight and ice business and have successfully carried on that business since. In this capacity they have sold large quantities to the Soo Railway and have shipped large quantities to other towns. Both are men of experience and have ample equipment for furnishing a perfect service in their special lines. Their ice houses are located at the foot of Clark Street on the Wisconsin River and also west of the Clark Street bridge.

In 1895 Mr. Reading bought a good home at 610 Normal Avenue and he and his family have lived in that location for over twenty years. He is a republican voter but has never sought any official honors. He is of liberal views in religion, and is always willing to contribute liberally to any good cause and has helped many in need.

In November, 1884, Mr. Reading married Miss Mary Ryan, of Jordan, Hull Township. Her father, Dennis Ryan, now deceased, was a Portage County pioneer and well known among the older residents. Dennis Ryan came to Wisconsin in 1855. He was married in Chicago in 1856 to Catherine Murphy, who died in 1873. They were the parents of six children. Mr. and Mrs. Reading have two daughters, both born in Stevens Point. Mabel, the older, graduated from the Stevens Point Normal and taught in Schofield, Neenah and Stevens Point, Wisconsin. On July 19, 1917, she became the wife of George W. Whitely of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, a passenger conductor on the Soo line, with headquarters in Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Whitely are at this writing traveling in the South, visiting San Antonio, Texas, and other points of interest. The second daughter, Nellie, was educated in the parochial schools and high school, and since graduating from the State Normal has been teaching in the schools of Stevens Point.

EARL H. FIELD is one of the younger business men of Stevens Point, a tobacconist at 428 Main Street.

He was born in this city May 5, 1892, and represents an old and honored family. His parents are Henry and Mary (Ihde) Field, both of whom are still living in Stevens Point. His father was born in Portage County and his mother in Milwaukee. Mr. Field is descended from an ancestor who fought as a private in the Revolutionary war.

He was reared and educated in Stevens Point, and in 1908, at the age of sixteen, found his first regular employment with the P. Rothman Dry Goods Company. He was there until January 22, 1916, when he assumed the position of manager of Burley's Cigar and Billiard Parlor, and later became sole proprietor of this business, which he conducts at the present time.

Mr. Field is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, is a republican in politics, and both he and his parents are members of the Baptist Church. On April 23, 1917, he married Miss Laura Bodette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bodette of Grand Rapids, Wisconsin.

JOSEPH L. DOPP. One of the important early dates in the settlement of Belmont Township is June 1, 1852, which marks the coming of Henry H. and Ellen (Lane) Dopp and family. They found in the entire township only to other families, one headed by Peter Dunegan and the other by H. W. Robinson. All was new and raw, but Henry H. Dopp with the spirit of the real pioneer went immediately to work to clear and develop his land. He acquired 280 acres in section 35 and made that a fine farm before his death. He was a highly respected and earnest minded citizen and his death on February 13, 1895, marked the passing of one of the real pioneers of the county. His wife died June 14, 1895. They were married in Waukesha County of this state in 1848.

Henry H. Dopp was born near Rome in Oneida County, New York, October 4, 1819. Just a month later Ellen Lane was born in Broome County, New York, on November 3, 1819. Henry H. Dopp settled in Waukesha County, Wisconsin Territory, in 1844, and Ellen Lane arrived in the same county the next year. They lived for about four years after their marriage in Oconomowoc Township of Waupaca County. Henry H. Dopp was a republican in politics and for many years served as justice of the peace and was also a member of the School Board. He was of Quaker ancestry. He and his wife had five children: Joseph L.; Albert E., a farmer of Belmont Township; Charles H., who has a portion of the old homestead; Fred, a farmer of Almond Township; and Susan C., who lives in Springvale Township of Waushara County, widow of George C. Lane.

Joseph L. Dopp, who represents the second generation of the family in Belmont Township, was born at Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, December 24, 1849, and was not yet three years of age when his parents came to Portage County. His early life was spent on the old homestead and he had such education as was supplied by the local schools of his youth. The first school he attended was kept in a board shanty, but the next year a better and more substantial frame school-house was erected. His choice of vocation was farming and in 1872 he put a plow into some of the land which he now owns as a farm in Belmont Township. Mr. Dopp is proprietor of 250 acres and the pass-

ing years have seen many improvements. He erected a group of good buildings, including a barn 40 by 60 feet and is doing a good deal with cattle of the Holstein strain, having a thoroughbred bull at the head of his herd. He is now practically retired from the heavier responsibilities of farming, his assistants and managers being his sons George and Walter.

Mr. Dopp is a republican voter. For a number of years he served as chairman of the township, and for one year was township clerk and has also served as secretary of the Stockton Insurance Company twenty-three years. He is a member of the Masonic Order and the Knights of the Maccabees.

September 6, 1874, Mr. Dopp married Miss Della Darling. She was born in Cattaraugus County, New York, May 15, 1855, daughter of Samuel and Iantha (Carpenter) Darling. Her parents came to Waupaca County on July 1, 1855, when she was only six weeks old. Her parents spent the rest of their lives in Waupaca County, where her father died in February, 1899, at the age of seventy-two, and her mother was about seventy when she died. Mr. and Mrs. Dopp have had six children. Nellie, the oldest, died when a young girl of fifteen. Grace E. and Pearl E. are twins, and both are now married and have children. Grace married W. M. Smart and they live in North Dakota. Their family consists of six children: Reginald H., Winfield Scott, Virginia, Conrad, Homer Donovan and John Charles. Pearl E. is the wife of Albert Lowe, and they also live in North Dakota and have three children: Philip M., James D. and Robert D. Walter H. married Florence Frost and they live on the paternal homestead. Their one child is Elizabeth Genevieve. The fourth in age in the family is Genevieve, wife of E. J. Gragoe, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and they have one child, Edward J. George M., the youngest, is unmarried and lives at home. Mr. and Mrs. Dopp have twelve grandchildren.

EDWARD McHUGH. While Portage County is not an old district as compared with many sections of the east it contains a number of families that have been here for several generations, and these families make up the bone and sinew of the social and industrial fabric. A splendid representative of the earlier pioneer class who has now gone to his reward was the late Edward McHugh.

A native of Ireland, where he was born in 1830, he came to the United States and settled in Kentucky in early manhood. In Kentucky he married Margaret Sinnott, who was also born in Ireland. It was in 1860 that this pioneer couple arrived at Stevens Point. In the fall of that year they located on land in Dewey Township, and that land has now been in the continuous ownership and occupation of the family for over half a century. Edward McHugh did some of the first work in clearing away the woods and planting the crops. Beginning with 160 acres, he acquired another eighty acres, and was prospered, an intelligent and highly thought of citizen the rest of his years. He died in 1897, his widow surviving him until 1910, when she passed away at the age of sixty-seven.

Edward McHugh was a stalwart democrat in politics. For thirty years he occupied the office of township clerk. He and his family were members of the Catholic Church.

They had ten children. Mary, the oldest, is the wife of Ever Iversen, and they live in Rhinelander, Wisconsin. A number of the chil-

dren are still on the old farm, the oldest of them being James. Thomas, the third child, married Kate Welch, and they live at Sand Point, Idaho, and have seven children, the three oldest being John, Margaret and Frank. John and Edward are still living in Portage County, the former at Stevens Point and the latter on the homestead. Matthew is employed at Blackwell, Wisconsin. Martin, Frank, Kate and Richard are all at home.

The children who have remained at home have taken up the work which was laid down by their honored father and have carried it forward to notable proportions. They bought 120 acres of land, making the farm comprise 360 acres. It is a big farm, productive soil, well managed and is contributing its share to the high standard of Portage County as an agricultural area. Furthermore it is a fine home. The house is surrounded by beautiful trees and every traveler along the highway remarks upon its homelike and attractive atmosphere. It is the center of some very progressive farming. In 1907 the McHughs erected a large barn 36 by 74 feet, and they have one of the finest silos encountered anywhere in Portage County. This silo, 14 by 32 feet, is constructed of brick and is one of the few silos of that material in the county. The McHugh brothers handle high-grade Holstein cattle with a thoroughbred sire at the head. The son Thomas has served as supervisor of the township one term, and Edward McHugh, Jr., is now clerk of the school district. Miss Kate McHugh keeps house for her brothers on the farm.

MICHAEL OSTROWSKI has lived in Portage County from early infancy, came to manhood here with the average experiences of a country youth and in a period still suggesting pioneer things, and in his mature manhood has so ordered his affairs as a farmer and citizen that he thoroughly enjoys the respect and esteem of an entire community.

Mr. Ostrowski was born in Poland in September, 1871. A few weeks after his birth his parents, Thomas and Mary Ostrowski, set out for the New World, and after about six weeks in New York came to Portage County in 1872. They settled in that portion of Hull Township that is now Dewey Township, and there acquired land which is now in the farm of Michael Ostrowski. That land was then in a state of nature and Thomas Ostrowski cleared much of it, planted and cultivated his crops and lived here a useful and industrious citizen until his death in March, 1892, at the age of sixty. His widow survived him until 1908, and was then sixty-three years of age. Their children were: Michael; Annie, deceased; Frances; Edward; John, deceased; Frank; and Anton. Both parents were devout members of the Polish Catholic Church.

Michael Ostrowski was reared on the old farm in Dewey Township and acquired his early education in the district schools. He has always lived on the farm where he was reared and now in addition to the old homestead of 120 acres in section 26 he owns forty acres in section 22. He has done some pioneer work, has cleared up much land, and has erected some of the substantial buildings which now adorn the farm. He is looked upon as one of the enterprising farmers of the township. In early days Mr. Ostrowski lived in Wisconsin, when deer were much more plentiful than at present, and he acquired much skill as a hunter and is still an enthusiast in that sport and whenever possible seeks out the haunts of wild game.

He and his family are members of the Polish Catholic Church. He has done much to uphold the fortunes of the democratic party in the county and is now a director of the local school board. In 1897 Mr. Ostrowski married Miss Paulina Yack, daughter of John Yack, of Sharon Township. Mr. and Mrs. Ostrowski became the parents of fourteen children, seven of whom died in infancy. The others are all living, named Felix, Alexander, Joseph, Philip, Jacob, John and Clara.

**MARTIN NEUBERGER.** One of the old and honored residents of Stevens Point, Mr. Neuberger has had an active career as a railroad worker and in other lines of usefulness, and has been a factor in community life for over forty years.

He was born in Hungary November 3, 1844. He was reared and educated in his native land and in 1868 he married Mrs. Elizabeth Tyler. In March, 1875, they came to New York, spent a short time in Tennessee, at Louisville, Kentucky, and later in the same year arrived at Stevens Point. At that time the county seat of Portage County was a small village, chiefly in the woods. Martin Neuberger has lived here ever since, and for many years was employed on the old Wisconsin Railway as car inspector, and also in charge of the supply department. He is now living retired. He has acquired considerable property and has had some share in developing the residential section of the city. The first home he built was on Fremont Street, and about thirty years ago he built his present residence at 430 Oak Street. He also owned a farm in Buena Vista Township for a number of years. He is independent in politics and a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and the Catholic Knights. His wife died at Stevens Point May 7, 1915, at the age of seventy-two years.

Frank A. Neuberger, one of the five children of Martin Neuberger and wife, was born at Stevens Point March 30, 1879. He attended the parochial schools and finished his education in St. Francis College at Quincy, Illinois. He is well known in public affairs and for about fifteen years has been clerk of the county court of Portage County. He is normally a democrat but often exercises his independent judgment in voting. He is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and is a member of the Catholic Church.

Frank A. Neuberger married June 9, 1908, Miss Margaret McGrogan. She was born in Thorps, Wisconsin, June 1, 1883, daughter of John and Margaret (Finnegan) McGrogan. Both her parents were natives of Canada and her father was born in 1846. They were pioneer settlers at Thorps, Wisconsin, where her father for many years has been in the ice and livery business. He was identified with the community when oxen were the chief instruments of transportation, and at one time he used oxen to carry the mail. The McGrogan family are Catholic and in politics democrats. They had five children: William J., Mary Agnes, Olive Maud, Martha Jane and Margaret, all of whom are still living.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Neuberger have a daughter, Elizabeth Margaret, born April 4, 1911.

**WILLIAM E. WEST.** The patrons of the Wisconsin Central and Soo Line have known William E. West in his capacity as a freight or

passenger conductor for more than a quarter of a century. For an even longer period he has been identified with the good citizenship of Stevens Point as a resident and he is one of the most influential among the large colony of railroad men who make this city their home.

Mr. West is of New England ancestry and was born at East Machias, Maine, June 28, 1860, son of Jeremiah W. and Rebecca (Baker) West. Both parents were natives of Maine. The father enlisted for service in the Union army when William E. West was a few months old, and served gallantly with his regiment until he was killed at the battle of Fair Oaks, Virginia, May 5, 1862. The Grand Army Post at East Machias, Maine, is named in his honor. In early life he had been a sawmill man. He and his wife had four children. Emma D., the oldest, married Emmon F. Rollins. Mr. Rollins was a sailor in early days and later took up railroading, and came to Wisconsin with his brother-in-law, William West, living at Stevens Point for some years. He was connected with the old Wisconsin Central and later went to work with the wrecking crew of the Santa Fe Railroad. He lived in Texas about twelve years, and died in 1913. His widow is still living at Cleburn, Texas. Clementine, the second daughter, married Hassell Nutt, and they live at Brooklyn, New York. Mr. Nutt for many years has been a mail carrier in New York City. Henry West was for about thirty-five years a bill clerk in the employ of the Wisconsin Central Railroad and is still living at Stevens Point.

William E. West, the fourth and youngest child, was brought to Stevens Point by his mother about 1879. His mother later moved to Fort Worth, Texas, and lived with her brother Henry and died in that city. William E. West was educated at East Machias, Maine, and also attended school both at East Machias and at Brooklyn, New York. After coming to Portage County he worked in the saw mills at Romeo for one year and then was employed at Wausau.

On December 24, 1880, he began his employment with the Wisconsin Central Railway. His first work was as switchman for four years and he was promoted to yardmaster, working thus for five years. He became a brakeman and on June 10, 1890, was promoted to freight conductor. The first train he took out had the misfortune of being ditched at what is now Owens, Wisconsin. But that was a good rather than a bad augury, and he has continued now for more than a quarter of a century to handle trains on the Wisconsin Central and for fifteen years had a run to Portage. For the past five years he has had one of the best runs on the Soo Line, between Stevens Point and Chicago. In 1886 Mr. West built his home at 314 Oak Street. He is an active member of the Order of Railway Conductors, is also affiliated with the Knights of the Maccabees and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Stevens Point, belongs to the Baptist Church and in politics is independent.

September 29, 1883, he married Grace Whitney. Mrs. West was born in New Brunswick, Canada, March 4, 1865, daughter of George and Jane (Rogers) Whitney. Her parents were also natives of Canada and were born and married in the same house at New Brunswick and their children were born in the same place. In 1868 the Whitney family came to Knowlton, Marathon County, Wisconsin, where the father was a lumberman for eight years. He then removed to Stevens Point, and continued in the lumber business and conducted a mill on Plover River. He died at Stevens Point in 1896, and his wife is also deceased. Their children were: Ann, Mrs. Robert Wallace, of Stevens Point;



George, deceased, his widow, Mrs. Florence Whitney, living on Jefferson Street; Daniel, who resides on Normal Avenue; Henrietta, wife of Emerson Wells, of Washington Street; Armina, wife of George L. Rogers, also of Stevens Point; Alice, who died at the age of sixteen; Charlotte, wife of Dr. W. N. Kennedy of Ceres, California; and Robert, who died at the age of eleven years; and Grace, Mrs. West.

Mr. and Mrs. West have a family of six children: Winifred, born April 7, 1884, died September 20, 1886; W. Hassell, born March 7, 1888, married Alma Roulier and has a son, William E., born January 22, 1918; Myron Whitney, born July 16, 1890, lives at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and by his marriage to Nora Jerns has three daughters, Orion, Lenore and Charlotte; Evelyn, born May 6, 1894, is a successful teacher in the kindergarten of the Fifth Ward school at Stevens Point; Harrold, born August 7, 1896, is in the senior year of the Dental College of the University of Illinois; Dorothy Irene, born May 15, 1898, married Bert O'Connor of Stevens Point, and has a daughter, Marian Jane, and son, Hal B.

FELIX BRUSKI represents that type of citizen who has had most to do with the development of Portage County. As a class such citizens have been primarily workers, and year after year have performed their allotted tasks and have been content to perform their responsibilities without expectation of honors and rewards sometimes bestowed upon less worthy individuals.

Mr. Bruski has lived in Portage County most of his mature life and his prosperity is measured not only by extensive lands and a beautiful farm, but also by his participation in local affairs and by the splendid family of children who have grown up around him.

Mr. Bruski was born in Poland January 9, 1859, a son of Martin and Paulina Bruski. In 1873 his parents came to Portage County and soon located in that portion of Hull Township that is now Sharon Township. They were comparatively poor and able to buy only forty acres of land. They lived good, honest and industrious lives, and the father died here in 1906, at the age of eighty-two, while the mother passed away in 1912, and was at that time more than 100 years old. They had three children, all living, named: Joseph, Felix and Mary.

Felix Bruski acquired his early education in the schools of his native land. He was fourteen years old when he came to Wisconsin and after that spent most of his time for twelve years working in the woods and on the river. He acquired his first land in Sharon Township, comprising 120 acres. Two years later he came to the farm he now owns in Dewey Township, where he has 160 acres. He has also bought and sold land extensively and at one time had 680 acres. Most of his present farm has been cleared by his capable energies and it is devoted to the general crops and livestock. It is improved with substantial buildings, and while he has had some losses, including one barn that burned, on the whole he has been greatly prospered in his affairs.

In politics his affiliations have been as a democrat. He has served as a member of the School Board, has been supervisor of Dewey Township, and before Dewey Township was set off from Hull Township served as supervisor of that township. He is a member of the Polish Catholic Church.

In 1887 Mr. Bruski married Miss Mary Dorova. She was born in Poland and died in November, 1899, at the age of thirty-three. They

became the parents of eight children, all of whom are still living. Their names are John, Martha, Mary, Rosa, Felix, Leo, Bennie and Annie. Mary, Rosa, Felix and Annie all live in Chicago, while Leo is at Milwaukee.

**HENRY SCHLIESMAN.** In the personal and family record of this well known citizen of Sharon Township are many features of interest to the community at large. Mr. Schliesman has lived all his life in Wisconsin and evidence of his material success and well being is found in the fine farm which he now owns.

He was born in Scott Township of Columbia County, Wisconsin, December 29, 1867, son of Peter and Amelia (Konold) Schliesman. On both sides the family came from Germany. His paternal grandparents, Michael and Mary (Winter) Schliesman, arrived in Columbia County, Wisconsin, as pioneers in 1854 and spent the rest of their days in that locality. The grandfather died about 1888, when eighty-six years of age, and the mother in 1865, when about fifty. Peter Schliesman was born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, October 22, 1830, and in 1848, at the age of eighteen, immigrated to America. His first location was at Philadelphia, where for a year and a half he worked in a powder factory. Coming on to Wisconsin, he lived for two years in Portage City, and while there was employed in a local brewery. He also had considerable experience in the pineries, was a riverman and sawmill workman at Jordan, and was employed in the first mill at that town. He finally located on a farm eighteen miles east of Portage. June 4, 1855, he married Miss Amelia Konold. She was born in Germany December 18, 1835, and when thirteen years of age came to Wisconsin and to Columbia County with her sister and brother. About six years later her parents, Mathias and Margaret (Simons) Konold, joined their children in Wisconsin. Her father was a very skilled mechanic and a manufacturer, and while living in Germany owned a foundry.

After their marriage Peter Schliesman and wife began housekeeping on their farm in Columbia County, but in 1872 moved to Portage County and lived on the place now owned by their son Henry. The father died in Stevens Point May 24, 1916, and the widowed mother is still living at the home of her son Henry, being now eighty-three years of age. She had the following children: Adam, of Rhinelander, Wisconsin; Anna, living at 111 Jefferson Street in Stevens Point, widow of John Eiden; Theresa, wife of August Oesterle, of Sharon Township; Mary, wife of Martin Welch, of Stockton Township; and Henry. Mr. Henry Schliesman's father was a democrat in early life, but later became a republican. He was a man of affairs, served as supervisor in Sharon Township, also as treasurer and road commissioner. He and his family were members of the Catholic Church.

Mr. Henry Schliesman while a boy did not lack for opportunities to acquire a practical knowledge of the business to which he has applied his best efforts and mature years. He attended the public schools and his most productive years have been lived on a farm of 134 acres near Ellis. He has given this farm some substantial improvements and is a breeder of high grade cattle.

November 15, 1892, he married Miss Margaret Miller. Mrs. Schliesman was born in Aaron Township, on the old homestead, February 18, 1871, a daughter of Charles and Theresa (Fisher) Miller.

Her father was born in Alsace Lorraine February 7, 1832. Her mother was born in Bavaria, Germany, November 15, 1834. They were married on February 13, 1855, and it will be recalled that Mr. Schliesman's parents were married on June 4th of the same year. Both Mr. and Mrs. Schliesman's parents lived to celebrate their golden wedding anniversaries. Father and mother Schliesman lived together sixty-two years. Mrs. Schliesman's parents came to the United States in 1865 and spent the rest of their years in Sharon Township, where her father died October 20, 1906, and her mother January 10, 1908. In their family were fourteen children, named Charles, Louise, Mary, Anna, Jacob, Nicholas, who died in infancy, while the next son was also named Nicholas, Alois, Theresa, Margaret, Henry, Rosa, Christine and Nora. The family were all members of the Catholic Church.

A fact of special interest in connection with the family history of Mrs. Schliesman is that her paternal grandfather Gabriel Miller, was one of the followers of the gallant Count Rochambeau who came across the ocean from France and aided the struggling American colonies to win their independence from Great Britain. He was present in the culminating battle of the war at Yorktown, and after the war went back to his native country.

Mr. and Mrs. Schliesman became the parents of five children: Peter, born August 17, 1893, was educated in the public schools and is still at home. Amelia, born January 14, 1895, was liberally educated in St. Stephen's parochial school, graduated in the elementary course from the Stevens Point Normal and for six years was a popular teacher. On November 15, 1917, the silver wedding anniversary of her parents, she married John Gutman. The third of Mr. and Mrs. Schliesman's children is Cordelia, who was born February 23, 1897, was educated in local schools, took the rural school training course at the Stevens Point Normal, and since 1914 has been a teacher. Grace, born April 2, 1900, was educated in the public schools and in the State Normal, and since 1916 has also been teaching. The youngest of the family is Carl, born June 14, 1910.

BASIL WANTA is one of the prominent land owners and agriculturists in Sharon Township, where he has spent the best part of his active career. Mr. Wanta knows farming from A to Z and his capabilities have been developed by long and thorough experience. He is a thorough business man and one of the valuable citizens of the county.

Mr. Wanta was born in Poland in 1862, and seven years later, in 1869, his parents, Joseph and Barbara Wanta, came to the United States. They lived a short time in New York State, and then came west and spent one summer at Berlin, Wisconsin. From here they returned to New York, but in March, 1881, settled in Portage County in Sharon Township, and here the parents spent the rest of their worthy lives. The father died June 2, 1907, at the age of eighty-six, and the mother in 1900, aged fifty-six. They were very devout members of the Polish Catholic Church. Their family consisted of six children. Alexander, Joseph, Basil, John, Frank and Rosa.

Mr. Basil Wanta was educated in the public schools of New York State. He has been a permanent resident of Portage County since December 3, 1881. For five years he worked at wages in saw mills and in the lumber woods, and from that occupation engaged in farming. In 1892 he bought in Sharon Township 120 acres, and after

improving it he bought other land until his place now comprises 240 acres. It is a highly cultivated and valuable farm, with good building improvements, and is operated at a maximum of production and profit under Mr. Wanta's direction.

Mr. Wanta is also president of the Polish Fire Insurance Association of Portage County. Politically he is a republican. He has done much in the way of public service, was formerly a road commissioner, was chairman of the township board four years, and for the past thirteen years has served as clerk of his school district. He and his family are members of the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia.

On February 4, 1884, Mr. Wanta married Miss Rosa Dzwonkowski. She was born in Portage County, daughter of Nick and Josie Dzwonkowski, pioneer settlers here. Her mother died in 1917 and her father is still a resident of Sharon Township. Mrs. Wanta died October 6, 1896, leaving six children, named Felix, Louis, Julius, Bertha, Frances and Otto. In 1897 Mr. Wanta married Anastasia Fonnalla. She was born in Poland, where her father died, and when a child she came with her mother to Portage County. Her mother died in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Wanta have two children, Clara, wife of Mike Kruzinski, and Martha.

JOSEPH NIEMCZYK is one of the substantial farming element of Linwood Township, and taking the labors of his honored father and of himself for forty years the family name has been identified with this section and has been a part in clearing up the wilderness and making it fruitful.

Mr. Niemczyk was born in Prussian Poland March 4, 1868, and in 1872, when he was four years of age, was brought by his parents, Thomas and Kate Niemczyk, to Stevens Point, Portage County. The father bought 160 acres of land in Linwood Township, where his son Joseph now resides, and here he busied himself with all the duties of an industrious farmer and capable citizen until his death October 5, 1915, at the age of eighty-seven years. The mother passed away June 1, 1915, aged seventy-eight. Both were active members of the Polish Catholic Church. Their children were Nick, Jennie and Joseph.

Joseph Niemczyk grew up on his father's farm, attended the schools at Stevens Point, and after reaching manhood he bought the farm and has kept it in the finest productive condition and has done much to improve its buildings. Mr. Niemczyk is one of the dairymen of his district.

In politics he is a democrat and has served as path master and as a member of the school board. He belongs to the Polish Catholic Church.

March 25, 1892, he married Miss Frances Moranek, who was born in Portage County, daughter of Joseph and Mary Moranek, who came to this section of Wisconsin about 1872. Her father died here in 1908 and her mother in 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Niemczyk became the parents of a large family of fifteen children, four of whom, August, Barney, Gertrude and Alexander, are now deceased. The living children include Martha, John, Wallace, Alexander, Peter, Elizabeth, Roman, Regina, Benjamin and Albert.

ANDREW P. SWENSON has been running a highly productive and well managed farm in New Hope Township for a quarter of a century,

and aside from his interests at home has made himself a factor in various local business and civic institutions, and is one of the men whose names readily occur when a list of representative citizens is made up in that part of Portage County.

Mr. Swenson is a native of Norway, born October 6, 1858. In 1865, when he was seven years old, he was brought by his parents, John Peter and Gunhild (Olson) Swenson, to America. The family spent about two years in Chicago, and then removed to Iola Township of Waupaca County, where his father began work on a tract of new land and made it into a good farm. The father is still living there, and the mother died in 1917. Three children grew to maturity: Andrew P., Daniel J. who lives on the old homestead in Waupaca County, and Olaf S., a resident of Nelsonville.

Andrew P. Swenson secured his first schooling in Waupaca County and he also attended high school at Stevens Point. In 1893 he embarked in farming on his present place in New Hope Township. Mr. Swenson owns eighty acres, has erected the building improvements, and is running a first class dairy with graded Guernsey cattle.

In May, 1886, he married Miss Ida Howen, a native of New Hope Township, and member of the well known Howen family of this section. Mr. and Mrs. Swenson have six children, all living, named Perry G., Thomas P., Inez A., Hanna N., Arthur V. and Eleanor B. Like many other families of Portage County the Swensons contributed two of their sons to the service of the new National Army. The soldier representatives of the family are Arthur and Thomas. The family attend worship at the old New Hope Church.

Mr. Swenson was for six years assessor of New Hope Township and has also served as school clerk. He was one of the men who brought about the organization of the New Hope Butter and Cheese Association, is a director in that company, and is also financially interested in the New Hope Fire Insurance Company.

HALVOR E. LOBERG of Amherst Township, is one of the men qualified to speak with authority upon the growth and development of this section of country during the last half century. He has lived in Portage County almost altogether for half a century, and out of his labors in the lumber woods, as a farmer, merchant and in other kinds of work has acquired a comfortable competence sufficient for his declining years.

Mr. Loberg was born in Norway February 11, 1846, son of Even Lewison and Karen (Larson) Loberg. The parents spent all their lives in Norway and Halvor was the only member of the family to leave that country. His father was a farmer. There were four children, Lars, Bertha, Halvor and Carl, all now deceased except Halvor.

Halvor E. Loberg had very limited opportunities to secure an education when a boy, and his total attendance at public school would hardly aggregate more than a month. He was twenty-two years of age, strong and vigorous, ambitious, and willing to undertake any kind of work, when he crossed the ocean in 1868 to America. He left Norway on April 18th and his first stay of any duration was at Chicago, where he remained a week or so and became acquainted with the little city as it then was. From there he came directly to Nelsonville, Portage County, and for several years did the hard labor of the pineries and logging on the rivers. Out of his savings he was able

in 1874 to buy the farm which he still owns. It was then largely covered with heavy timber. His first purchase was 120 acres, but later he added another fifty acres, thus making one of the larger and well situated farms of Amherst Township. Much of the land has been gradually cleared under his efforts, a fine house has been built, and for a number of years he has handled it as a mixed farming proposition. In livestock he gives his chief attention to graded Guernsey cattle. As a dairyman he was one of the men interested in the organization of the creamery at Scandinavia and still has stock in the company and was its vice president for one year. Along with farming he conducted the local store and was postmaster at Benson's Corners 2½ years. He has always shown a willingness to promote the welfare of the community, served two years as side supervisor of Amherst Township, and has long been a prominent member of the Lutheran Church at Scandinavia.

On September 10, 1874, Mr. Loberg married Miss Nettie Thorson. She was born in Rock River County, Wisconsin, daughter of Brinel Thorson. Mrs. Loberg died August 14, 1892, leaving two children, Carl Edward, now at Minot, North Dakota, and Marion Bertina, Mrs. Howard Rowens, of Los Angeles, California. On February 11, 1894, Mr. Loberg married Mrs. Bertha Helena (Christopherson) Gunderson. Her first husband was Olaf Gunderson, and by that marriage she is the mother of two children: Gunda Eliza, now Mrs. Adolph Skowan; and Olphine Gunderson.

**GEORGE TURRISH.** Farming is a profitable business only when a man of enterprise, energy and creative ideas is the directing force. The same statement is true of a prosperous grocer, manufacturer or professional man.

One of the men looked up to as an up-to-date farmer, a well to do citizen, and one of the progressive factors in Buena Vista Township is Mr. George Turrish, who was born on the farm that he still owns July 22, 1868. He is a son of James and Catherine (Campbell) Turrish, both of whom were natives of Ireland and were early settlers in Buena Vista Township.

Mr. George Turrish grew up on the home farm, had a public school education, and learned the business of farming by practical experience. Besides acquiring the old homestead he has increased its area and facilities, and it now contains 280 acres. The distinctive feature of his industry is the raising of high grade Holstein cattle. Mr. Turrish is a republican, but has been satisfied to cast his vote intelligently without seeking office. He is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and his family are members of the Catholic Church.

March 25, 1908, he married Miss Zita Bowden. Mrs. Turrish is a native of Buena Vista Township, born June 16, 1884, daughter of Patrick and Delia (Griffith) Bowden. Her parents came to Portage County many years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Turrish are the parents of seven children: Catherine, born September 5, 1909; James, born December 24, 1910; Alice, born December 9, 1911; Margaret, born December 10, 1912; Eleanor, born January 1, 1914; Nannie, born January 27, 1915, and George Jr., born January 6, 1917.

**WILLIAM J. LEARY**, of Amherst, is frequently spoken of by his neighbors and friends as "a good manager." Good management has

no doubt been a factor in his notable success as a business man, and at the same time he owes that success also to a faculty for hard work.

Leary is an old and honored name in the pioneer annals of Portage County. More than sixty-five years ago, in 1851, John Leary, a native of Ireland, came to this part of Wisconsin from Canada, where he had grown up from the age of eleven. In his early days he was a daring and sturdy worker in the lumber industry, and his first experience in Portage County was in driving logs down the Plover River. He took a large raft of logs down these waterways to St. Louis. While on that trip he passed through the famous Dells. It was a point of much danger on account of the rapid and swirling waters, requiring constant vigilance on the part of the rivermen, and John Leary passed that picturesque spot without being able to appreciate its beauties. Later he married in Canada Catherine Donaldson, and brought his bride to Portage County, locating in the Town of Stockton. In that neighborhood he bought eighty acres, later another eighty acres, but finally sold this farm. Both he and his wife passed away many years ago. Their children, six in number, are all still living, as follows: Margaret, at Stevens Point; William J.; Mary, who is married and lives in Chicago; Moses of Portage County; James N., a resident of the State of Washington; and Rose, in Chicago.

William J. Leary was born at the home of his parents in this county April 9, 1859. His early years were spent uneventfully at home with his parents and attending the local schools. At an early age he showed a decided bent for work, and has never been lacking in some employment and has found many opportunities for usefulness and profit in business which other men would have overlooked. He has done farming on a practical and extensive scale, and has also bought and sold many tracts of land. At one time he owned three farms at Custer. About thirty years ago he bought the farm he now owns in Amherst Township, comprising 161 acres, about sixty-one acres of which are divided between marsh and timber. This farm was in a good state of development when he bought it, but he has since added a few buildings, his interests now comprising in the aggregate more than 600 acres in different sections of Wisconsin, a large part of which has never been developed. He has handled stock, and farms on the mixed plan. He has eighty acres at the Town of Grand, eighteen acres at Lanark, eighty acres in Oneida County, eighty acres in Price County, and also has 160 acres in Saskatchewan, Canada. He owns two dwelling houses, rental properties, in Gas City, Indiana. Mr. Leary is also a shareholder in the Amherst Creamery and the telephone line. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and is active in the Catholic Church at Amherst.

April 10, 1888, he married Miss Mary Tobin, a native of Portage County. They have five children, three of whom are still in the home circle: Agnes, who is married, lives at Clintonville; Bernice; Raymond, now serving in the United States Navy; Earl and Joseph.

In pioneer times the Learys did much of their farming with ox teams. Mr. William J. Leary himself when he moved from his old home to his farm brought his goods on what was known as a "bob" drawn by oxen. For eleven years he and his family lived in the heavy timber, and his experiences have been such as to enable him to appreciate all the trials and hardships the pioneers went through in developing this part of Wisconsin. Mr. Leary is a thoroughly modern

American, drives a good car over the country roads of Portage County, and another evidence that he is in every respect up to date in the management of his farm is the fine large silo adjoining his barn.

**MELFORD WILLIAMS.** Few men are more prominent or more widely known in Eau Plaine Township than Melford Williams. He has been an important factor in agricultural circles, and his popularity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating energy and industry that never flags. He is public-spirited and thoroughly interested in whatever tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of his community.

Mr. Williams was born in Waupaca County, Wisconsin, August 6, 1875, a son of Solomon and Mattie (Emerson) Williams. His paternal grandparents were Benjamin and Laura Williams, who came to Wisconsin at a very early day in the history of the County of Waupaca, and for years were engaged in agricultural work, the grandfather dying there. Later the grandmother went to Lincoln County, North Dakota, where she passed away well advanced in years. Solomon Williams was born in Waupaca County, Wisconsin, March 6, 1846, and was reared on a farm and educated in the primitive district log schoolhouse. He was brought up as a farmer, adopted that vocation when he reached man's estate, and brought his family to Portage County January 14, 1886, buying fifty-seven acres of land in Eau Plaine Township in the woods. He cleared the greater part of this property and made a number of improvements, but eventually sold the land to his son Melford and moved to another farm, consisting of forty acres in the same township, not far from the homestead. There his death occurred June 17, 1908, since which time his widow has made her home with her son Melford. Mr. Williams was married in Outagamie County, Wisconsin, to Miss Mattie Emerson, who was born in Norway, January 25, 1854, a daughter of Michael and Helen (Olson) Emerson. Armond Emerson, the paternal grandfather of Mrs. Williams, was born in Norway and immigrated to America, settling in Winnebago County, Wisconsin, at an early date. There he passed the remainder of a remarkably long life, passing away when but three months less than 100 years old. His wife was Marie Emerson, who died in Norway before her husband came to the United States. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Williams were Ole and Helen Olson, both of whom died in Norway. Michael Emerson, the father of Mrs. Williams, was born in Norway, June 25, 1817, and was there married to Helen Olson who was born in 1826. In 1867 they came to the United States, and July 9 of that year arrived at Neenah, Wisconsin, where Mr. Emerson followed his trade of shoemaker for many years. About four years prior to his death he retired from active pursuits and went to live with his daughter, Mrs. Anna Gleasner, at Kaukauna, Wisconsin, at whose home he died in February, 1905, his wife having passed away some three years before. They were the parents of six children: Mattie, Ella, Ole, Andre, Annie and Lena, of whom Ole Andre and Lena are deceased. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Williams: Melford, George, Lena, Ella, Fred, Edward, Minnie, George and Leo, of whom all but George (1) are living.

Melford Williams acquired an ordinary education in the public



schools, and as his early training has been all along the lines of agriculture he adopted farming as his life work when he felt ready to enter upon his own career. His first purchase of land was the old homestead of fifty-seven acres which he bought from his father, and to this he has since added from time to time until he now has 117 acres, all under a good state of cultivation. In addition to being a general farmer Mr. Williams is interested in dairying, keeping about twenty-two head of graded Holstein cattle. His buildings are substantial and in splendid condition, including a barn 36 by 84 feet, and everything about his property suggests the presence of skilled management and progressive workmanship. He takes an intelligent interest in matters that affect the welfare of his community and has aided a number of projects promulgated for the benefit of the section in which he has resided so many years.

Mr. Williams was married December 1, 1913, to Miss Ida Zimmerman, who was born in Marathon County, Wisconsin, July 17, 1888, a daughter of Fred and Eleanor (Brandt) Zimmerman, farming people of Carson Township, Portage County, where they have resided since 1899. There were ten children in the Zimmerman family: Josephine, Ella, deceased, Ida, Rose, Irvin, Fred, Charley, David, Harold and Hanford, twins, and Elroy, deceased. Mrs. Williams was educated in the public schools of Portage County, completing her training in the State Normal School at Stevens Point. Following her graduation from that institution she adopted educational work as a profession, and during the eight years that she taught in the public schools of Portage County she became well known as an instructor. Like her husband, she has numerous friends in the community. Mr and Mrs. Williams are the parents of two children, a daughter, Ardene, who was born on the home farm May 26, 1916, and a son, Earl, born March 13, 1918.

BERT LEITZEN is one of the prosperous farmers of Linwood, and has done much to establish himself securely in the matter of material prosperity and the esteem of his community since he arrived there, a young married man, in 1901, bringing with him as his equipment, in addition to a few household goods, only one heifer and a span of horses. Hard work and thrifty management have given him the better of the battle and he has acquired a good home and made many improvements and has one of the excellent farms in this section of Portage County.

Mr. Leitzen was born in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, October 14, 1867. His parents were both natives of Holland, his father born in 1832 and his mother in 1842. His father came to America at the age of eighteen, and from 1852 lived at Sheboygan, Wisconsin, for a number of years and then moved to Milwaukee County, where he died in 1901. The mother, whose maiden name was Joanna Price, was brought to the United States when six years of age, and was married at eighteen.

WILLARD DEARING is one of the men who have seen the wilderness of Belmont Township cleared up and devoted to thriving farms and country homes, and his own part in that work has been a most creditable one. He is still living though retired from active work on his homestead in Belmont Township.

He was born at Orient in Aroostook County, Maine, March 30, 1837. Reared and educated in his native state, he came into the Middle West in 1857, lived for a time in Wausau, Marathon County, Wisconsin, in 1859 went to the Lake Superior region of Wisconsin, and in 1863 made permanent settlement in Portage County. Here he bought 160 acres of wild land in Belmont Township and cleared up and improved most of it. He still owns 120 acres. In 1864, the year after his arrival here, he left his new farm and his family to enlist in Company A of the Forty-Second Wisconsin Infantry. He was in service until the close of the war. He has always been a republican voter, but has aspired to no office. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

July 21, 1863, Willard Dearing married Miss Irene Collier. She was a native of the same county in Maine as her husband, born December 19, 1840. Mr. and Mrs. Dearing had eight children, two of whom died in infancy. George Hartley died in 1909. Judson Charles is manager of his father's old homestead. Thomas Manley, Susan, wife of Fred Dopp, Vinnie, wife of Walter Sheston, and Hattie, wife of Reinhold Mathe are the other children.

ANTONE J. EVERSON. Among the valuable farms of Portage County none in Amherst Township show more substantial improvements or give evidence of better management than that belonging to Antone J. Everson, one of the representative citizens of this section. He was born at Amherst in 1864, and is a son of Ole and Paulina (Ammonson) Everson, both of whom are now deceased.

Ole Everson came to Portage County from Norway in the early fifties and was one of the two first white men in what is now the Village of Amherst, then but a little lumber post. In 1858 he bought eighty acres of land in Amherst Township from Jerome Nelson, this land first being called the Meyers place. Ole Everson worked his land with oxen and had made considerable progress in getting it cleared, when the Civil war fell upon the country and before Mr. Everson had been able to do little more improving than to provide a warm house for his family the President of the United States found that in order to suppress rebellion a much larger army must be in the field than the volunteer system had provided. Hence came the draft enactment in 1864 and among those taken from Portage County was Ole Everson. He went to the front in a company commanded by Captain Gasman, of Amherst, and the regiment to which it was attached was later in a corps of the Federal army commanded by General Grant. This distinction, however, did not insure against danger and one who fell on the battle field while bravely performing his duty was Ole Everson. Beside his widow and infant son he left other heirs. After the war Mrs. Everson was married to Ole Simonson, who has lived on this farm ever since. He is one of the venerable men of the county and soon will celebrate his ninetieth birthday.

Antone J. Everson was reared on the farm his father left and obtained his education in the township schools. When he reached man's estate he bought the farm of eighty acres from the other heirs, and later bought another eighty acres that adjoined and now has a valuable farm of 160 acres. A fine lake and valuable timber cover forty acres, but he has 120 under cultivation and understands how to make his land yield to the utmost. For a number of years when he

first began he carried on his farm work with oxen, but now modern machinery is brought to bear on the hardest tasks, machinery that had not been invented when his father came here. In addition to general farming Mr. Everson gives a great deal of attention to stock-raising, and to assist in this feature of his industries he has erected a fine modern silo. He has always been very industrious and has worked intelligently, hence his undertakings have usually afforded him a reasonable amount of profit. With other sound and substantial men of the county he is interested in several successful local enterprises, for fifteen years having been a stockholder and a director in the Nelsonville Creamery, and is also a stockholder in the Telephone and Farmers Co-operative Company.

Mr. Everson was married first to Adosina Johnson, who died early, and their children passed away in infancy. In 1902 he was married at Amherst to Miss Nellie Johnson, whose parents still live in Amherst Township. Mr. and Mrs. Everson have seven children, namely: Palma, Adolph, Mabel, Elmer, Arthur, Norris and Edna, all of whom attend school, their father preparing to give them many advantages. They are being carefully reared in the faith of the Norwegian Lutheran Church.

Mr. Everson has always believed that a proper interest in politics is a public duty and on numerous occasions his fellow citizens have testified to their confidence in his integrity and business qualities by electing him to town offices, and at present he is serving in the office of township supervisor.

ALBERT B. CREGO is one of the popular men in the operating service of the Soo lines, has been a conductor for over a dozen years, and is a resident of Stevens Point, his home being at 306 East Avenue.

Mr. Crego was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, November 13, 1882, a son of Albert Eugene Crego. The father was born in Monroe County, Michigan, was a blacksmith by trade, and lived and worked at this occupation successively in Toledo, in Northfield, Minnesota, at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he was also engaged in the hardware business, and finally moved to Menominee, Wisconsin, where he died in 1900 at the age of fifty-two. By his first wife he had two children, Albert B. and Frank. The mother of these sons died during their infancy and he married for his second wife Nellie Eubanks. The children of the second marriage were: Kenneth, who is now in the United States Army; Helen, Marshall and Allen, the last named being deceased.

Albert B. Crego had a good education acquired from the public schools of Glenwood City and New Richmond, Wisconsin, and from the high school at Menominee. When seventeen years of age he began his railroad career, being employed in construction work with the Chicago, St. Paul & Minneapolis for two years. At the age of nineteen he went with the Wisconsin Central as brakeman and in August, 1906, gained promotion to the rank of conductor and has handled trains with admirable efficiency for that road ever since. For ten years his home was at Abbotsford, but in 1911 he moved to Stevens Point. Mr. Crego is affiliated with Abbotsford Lodge No. 298, Free and Accepted Masons, with the Order of Railway Conductors, is an independent voter and belongs to the Baptist Church.

In 1906 he married Miss Edith Burgeson. She was born at

Menominee, Wisconsin, October 13, 1881, daughter of John and Amanda (Andrews) Burgeson. Her people were early settlers in the vicinity of Menominee, where her father was a farmer. Her father was born July 25, 1835, and died December 15, 1917, at the advanced age of eighty-two. Her mother was born October 26, 1840, and died at Menominee December 14, 1915, aged seventy-five. In the Burgeson family were three children, Algot, Gertrude and Edith. Mr. and Mrs. Crego have three bright young children: Ruth Edna, born July 30, 1907; Claus Beverly, born May 28, 1909; and Elliott Eugene, born January 2, 1918.

**ALEXANDER G. KREMBS.** A man of scholarly attainments and pleasing address, Alexander G. Krembs is secretary of one of the leading drug firms of Stevens Point, and for nearly two years has rendered the city acceptable service as postmaster, performing the duties of the responsible position with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the general public. A son of the late Alexander Krembs, he was born at Stevens Point August 23, 1877, coming from German ancestry.

Born March 14, 1840, in Wurtemberg, Germany, Alexander Krembs remained in the fatherland until sixteen years old. Then, hoping in a newer world to find opportunity for advancing his material condition, he crossed the ocean in a sailing vessel, landing in New York October 29, 1856. A month later he came to Wisconsin, and after spending a few weeks in Fond du Lac made his way to Stevens Point, Portage County. In 1860, obtaining work elsewhere, he was away from this place three years. Returning then to Stevens Point, he opened a hardware store in January, 1863, being in partnership with his brother Charles, under the firm name of C. Krembs & Brother. In October, 1876, the head of the firm died, and the junior member, Alexander Krembs, continued the business until his own death, which occurred January 24, 1909. Influential in public affairs, he served as city assessor one term; was city treasurer two terms; and alderman from the First Ward two terms. He was also a delegate to several national democratic conventions. He married July 9, 1872, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at the residence of Philip Best, Lizzie Biegler, a native of Richfield, Washington County, Wisconsin, and into their household six children were born, as follows: Fritz A.; Emil A.; Alexander G.; Anton C.; Morety, a dentist; and Franz J., who is also a dentist.

After his graduation from the Normal School in 1898 Alexander G. Krembs entered the University of Wisconsin, and having completed the scientific course was there graduated with the class of 1901. Turning his attention to the study of pharmacy, he obtained the degree of Ph. G., and subsequently worked as a pharmacist in Rhineland and Wausau, while thus employed gaining professional knowledge and experience. Returning to Stevens Point in 1906, Mr. Krembs, with his brothers, embarked in the drug business, the oldest brother, Fritz A., being made president and manager of the newly organized firm; Anton Krembs, treasurer; Emil Krembs, vice president; and Alexander G., the subject of this sketch, secretary. In July, 1916, Mr. Krembs was appointed postmaster, and has since filled the position wisely and well, as previously mentioned.

Mr. Krembs married in June, 1906, Grace Corcoran, whose father,

Martin Corcoran, was a pioneer lumberman of Stevens Point. Two children have blessed their union, Alexander M. and Catherine Grace. While a student in the Normal School Mr. Krembs was prominent in athletics, and made a record in high, broad, hop skip and jumps that has never yet been beaten. He is a member of Phi Gamma Delta college fraternity. He likewise belongs to both the national and the state associations of postmasters. He is a member of the Rotary Club and of the Union Club at Milwaukee. Fraternally Mr. Krembs belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; to the Knights of Pythias; and to the Knights of Columbus. Religiously he is a member of the Catholic Church, which his father assisted in establishing. Politically he is a steadfast democrat, but has never aspired to official positions.

ANDREW J. ANDERSON. That farming and stockraising are the leading industries of Portage County, is not alone true because the land here is well adapted, but also because many of the agriculturists here are exceedingly industrious. One of the successful farmers and stockraisers of Amherst Township is Andrew J. Anderson, a substantial and representative citizen of this section of the county.

Andrew J. Anderson was born in Norway, August 19, 1863. His parents were Dan and Johanna (Ramsted) Anderson, who were born, lived and died in Norway. They had six children, namely: Noline, Johanna, Anna, Martha, Helen and Andrew.

Andrew J. Anderson attended school in his native land and from his books and from those of his acquaintance who had come to America, he learned much concerning the United States and early determined to visit this country. Therefore, when he reached manhood, he made his preparations to leave Norway. Although his parents could not be so persuaded, one of his sisters accompanied him and they came to Wisconsin. The sister, however, could not accustom herself to the new conditions and later returned to Norway, where she still lives.

Mr. Anderson has been interested in agricultural pursuits ever since he came to Wisconsin, but in late years has devoted himself mainly to his stock interests. He owns land in both Portage and Waupaca County, purchasing 160 acres in Portage County, of which he has 100 acres under the plow and sixty acres in valuable timber. He also owns a farm of 100 acres situated near Farmington, Waupaca County. Mr. Anderson has made all the excellent improvements on his land and has substantial buildings for every purpose. He is a hard-working, level-headed man and a practical and thorough farmer and his undertakings in Wisconsin have proved profitable.

In 1890 Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Anna Anderson, who was also born in Norway, and they have four children: Elmer, Jennie, Adolph and Mattie, all but one residing at home. Mr. Anderson and his family attend the Norwegian Lutheran Church.

With other substantial farmers of this locality, Mr. Anderson has taken an interest in the establishment of local agricultural enterprises and owns considerable stock in the creamery at Sheridan, Wisconsin, and also in the Northwestern Produce Company.

MICHAEL J. MERSCH. This is a name that people of Portage County familiarly identified with numerous important contracts in building operations both at Stevens Point and elsewhere. Mr. Mersch

has spent practically all his active years, a period of thirty years or more, in the carpenter and building trades. He had the contract to put up the buildings on the County Farm, has constructed a number of churches, schools and other buildings of public use, besides a large number of private homes.

Mr. Mersch is a native of Portage County and his family connections relate him to a number of familiar pioneer names. He was born in Sharon Township August 2, 1868, a son of Frederick and Mary (Simonis) Mersch. His grand parents Michael and Mary Ann Mersch were natives of the Duchy of Luxembourg and came from that country with their family in 1843. They settled near Dubuque, Iowa, buying a farm at Dyersville. His wife died there, and Michael spent his last years with his son Frederick in Sharon Township of Portage County. Their children were: Catherine, who lived in Carson Township, widow of Charles Campbell; Frederick; Ann, widow of Max Burke of Stevens Point; Mary, widow of Frank Hendricks of Iowa; Johanna, widow of John Hummel of Green Bay, Wisconsin; Nicholas, whose home was at Dyersville, Iowa, but spent his last days at Stevens Point, where he died; and Margaret, also deceased.

Frederick Mersch, father of Michael J., was born in Luxembourg June 11, 1836, and was seven years of age when brought to America. He was reared in Iowa, had a public school education, and prior to the war was foreman of a crew of negroes working on the Mississippi River. In young manhood he came to Stevens Point, where he married Miss Mary Simonis. She was born in Pennsylvania November 28, 1844, daughter of Mathias and Mary Ann Simonis. The Simonis family came from Pennsylvania to Portage County in early days and settled in what is now Hull Township, a mile and a half east of Stevens Point. Later they moved to a farm in Sharon Township, where Mathias Simonis was both a farmer and shingle manufacturer. He died there and his widow passed away at Stevens Point. After his marriage Frederick Mersch returned to Dyersville, Iowa, but after two years came again to Portage County and for several years worked in the woods and on the river and also was a shingle manufacturer. He owned a farm in Sharon Township, but later moved to a place in Carson Township, where he died July 15, 1904. His wife passed away in Sharon Township July 25, 1883. Frederick Mersch was active in democratic politics, and held a number of offices that indicate the general esteem he enjoyed. He was chairman of the board of supervisors of Sharon Township and similarly was honored in Carson Township. He was also for many years a justice of the peace in Sharon Township. He and his family were Catholics. Their children were: Mary Ann, Mrs. Nicholas Eiden Mitchen of Stevens Point; Mena, wife of Mathias Britz, a farmer of Stockton Township; Jane, wife of Nicholas Britz of Linwood Township; Catherine, wife of Joseph Frank of Stevens Point; Susan, wife of Louis Wagonhoffer of Fargo, North Dakota; Michael J.; Wendell F., who is a very successful teacher of penmanship and shorthand and is now one of the instructors of the Globe Business College at Stevens Point; Frank and Frederick, twins, the former employed by his brother Michael in the building business while Frederick is a farmer in Carson Township; John, who was a building contractor and while at work fell from a building and sustained injuries which brought about his death in 1904

at the age of twenty-five; Henry, who died at the age of three years; and Mathias, who died in infancy.

Michael J. Mersch spent most of his boyhood at his father's home in Sharon Township. He attended the public schools there and afterwards the Stevens Point Business College. His experiences up to the age of eighteen were those of a farmer boy and after that he did some logging and also learned the carpenter's trade. For thirty years he has worked as a carpenter and as a contractor and since 1899 has been a resident of Stevens Point. He bought in this city property at 800 Division Street, which has been the home of himself and family for many years. The extent of his business as a building contractor has already been referred to. Some of his recent contracts include the building of the St. Joseph Catholic Church in 1916 and the St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in 1918. Mr. Mersch is an active democrat and he and his family are members of St. Stephen's Catholic Church. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters and Beavers.

November 10, 1898, Mr. Mersch married Rose M. Miller. She was born in Sharon Township, daughter of Charles and Theresa (Fisher) Miller, the former a native of Alsace Lorraine and the latter of Bavaria, Germany. Her parents came to Portage County and settled on a farm in Sharon Township, where her father died October 20, 1905, at the age of seventy-three and her mother on January 10, 1907, aged seventy-two. In the Miller family were fourteen children: Charles, Louise, Marian and Anna, both deceased, Jacob, Nicholas and Nicholas, both of whom died in infancy, Alice, Theresa, deceased, Margaret, Henry, Rose, Christine deceased, and Eleanor. Mr. Miller and family were Catholics and he was a democrat. Mrs. Mersch's grandparents were Peter and Margaret, who also came to Portage County in 1865 and lived on a farm in Sharon Township. Her grandfather died there in 1874 and her grandmother in 1870. Mrs. Miller is a great-granddaughter of Gabriel Miller, who came to America when only nineteen years old and was a volunteer soldier in the Revolutionary war. After that struggle he went back to France and fought another battle for freedom in the French Revolution. He died in France.

EDWARD P. TRAUTMANN has made himself a useful citizen of Stevens Point in his capacity as superintendent of the City Water Works. That has been his line of work for a number of years, but he was reared and was formerly a merchant in business with his father at Whitewater, Wisconsin.

Mr. Trautmann was born at Whitewater May 4, 1870, son of Philip and Mary (Butz) Trautmann. His father was a native of Alsace Lorraine born February 13, 1836, and his mother was born in Switzerland January 16, 1840. They were married after they came to the United States. They came over to this country on the same boat and for a time lived in the eastern states where they married. About 1860 they moved to Whitewater, Wisconsin, where Philip Trautmann engaged in the boot and shoe business. He is still living at Whitewater at the venerable age of eighty-two. His wife died there in May, 1916. He is a republican in politics and has represented his ward in the city council of Whitewater. He is a member of the Congregational Church and is affiliated with the Independent Order

of Odd Fellows. In the family were seven children: Minnie; May; Carrie, deceased; Edward P.; George, who is an inspector with the rank of captain in the United States Army; Philip, captain of Company K of the One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Infantry, now in camp at Waco, Texas; and Fred. Thus two of the sons are representing the family in the present war.

Edward P. Trautmann was reared and educated at Whitewater and left school at an early age to begin work in his father's shoe store. For fifteen years he was in his father's store but in 1899 went to Menominee, Wisconsin, and was superintendent of the waterworks of that city for about fourteen years. In 1913 he came to Stevens Point, and as waterworks superintendent has kept that public utility up to a high state of efficiency and satisfactory service. Mr. Trautmann is a republican voter and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He resides at 807 Main Street.

Mr. Trautmann had an uncle, George Trautmann, who should also be mentioned in the military record of the family. He was in the Union army during the Civil war and served for over a year until wounded. He died about 1912.

Edward P. Trautmann married October 30, 1895, Miss Amy Gray. She was born in Missouri but at the time of her marriage was a resident of Whitewater, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Trautmann have one daughter, Carol Elizabeth, born at Menominee December 9, 1908.

CLARENCE S. RUSTAD. There are many acres of rich farming land in Portage County owned by the Rustad family, and a representative of this family is Clarence S. Rustad, a leading farmer and cattle breeder in New Hope Township. He was born in New Hope Township, Portage County, Wisconsin, February 27, 1888. His parents are Morton S. and Paulina (Kaakrud) Rustad. They came to this county many years ago, when pioneer conditions prevailed and settlers were comparatively few. Morton S. Rustad secured a tract of wild land which he cleared and improved and at the present time owns 120 acres and has eighty acres under cultivation. He put up all the substantial buildings and to his industry and energy may be attributed his comfortable surroundings. Six children were born to Morton S. Rustad and his wife, namely: Hannah, who is a widow, is a resident of St. Louis, Missouri; Ella, who lives at Wausau, Wisconsin; Carl, Melvin, Clarence S. and Elma, all of whom live in New Hope Township.

Clarence S. Rustad attended the public schools in New Hope Township during boyhood and since then has been engaged in farming. While the life of a farmer may not be quite as easy and enjoyable as many who have never tried it believe to be the case, it is a business in which a man may to a large extent be his own master and thus he can have more personal independence than is possible in many other lines, and additionally he can feel that his calling is the most important one in the world as it is the oldest. From his fields and through his industry the world must be fed. No less a man than George Washington himself once declared that "agriculture is the most healthful, the most useful and the most noble employment of man." It is a matter of great import, then, that the young men of the country should remain on the farm, and Clarence S. Rustad decided this matter for



himself and has proved that his judgment was not at fault. He has a fine farm of 212 acres situated in New Hope Township, and in the management of this property is assisted by his brother Melvin. Both are young men of enterprise and they carry on their operations according to modern methods. They make a special feature of raising high grade Holstein cattle and Mr. Rustad has a registered animal at the head of his herd.

Clarence S. Rustad was married to Miss Clara Rombeck, who was born in Portage County, where her parents still reside, her father being a substantial farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Rustad have two children, Willard and Myron. Mr. and Mrs. Rustad are active members of the New Hope Lutheran Church. They are sociable and hospitable and have a wide acquaintance and many friends in this part of Portage County. Mr. Rustad is an intelligent, level-headed business man and understands how to make farming a profitable business, but he has never been unduly active in politics, having no desire to hold office. As a good citizen he is ever ready, however, to give help in public movements, and, with his own little children in mind, is anxious that good schools and moral laws be assured for all.

GEORGE OSTROWSKI. It is reasonable to expect some good results from a residence in one locality of forty-five years, and that expectation is not disappointed in the case of Mr. George Ostrowski, who came here as a youth and has prospered as a farmer and made his efforts count in agriculture and in development of many other interests in this county.

Mr. Ostrowski was born in Poland in April, 1857. His father, Andrew Ostrowski, came to America in 1871 and for a year and a half did railroad work in Michigan. He and his family arrived in Stevens Point in 1873, and for a number of years he continued railroad work. In 1882 he and his son George bought the farm the latter now lives on. Andrew Ostrowski had five children; Thomas, who died in Hull Township at the age of sixty years; John, who died in 1909, aged sixty; Mrs. Rose Nonook, of Stevens Point; Antonio who died at the age of two years in Poland; and George.

George Ostrowski after coming to America spent four months in Michigan, and otherwise his career has been identified with Portage County. He farmed with his father, and the 160 acres in his homestead has been largely cleared by his own efforts. He used oxen for work animals eighteen years and out of many trials and vicissitudes has developed his present property, and now finds himself surrounded by all the comforts and conveniences of twentieth century living. Mr. Ostrowski served as a member of the school board three years, is a loyal democrat, and is active in the Polish Catholic Church.

In 1880 he married and a brief record of his children is as follows: Sylvester, a resident of Belmont, Wisconsin; John, who died in 1913; Peter, of Wausau; Mary, of Stevens Point; Rose, of Milwaukee; Louis, of Stevens Point; William, on the old homestead; George, also on the homestead; and three who died in infancy.

HAROLD OSTRUM is one of the younger citizens of Portage County, and has gained for himself a place of usefulness, honor and service in the banking fraternity. He is cashier of the Bancroft State Bank, which he helped organize in October, 1912. This is one of the pros-

perous banking institutions of the county, has a capital stock of \$10,000, and the other executive officers are: A. W. Manley, president, and Buchanan Johnson, vice president. Mr. Johnson resides at Plainfield, while the president and cashier are both residents of Bancroft.

Harold Ostrum was born at Hancock, Waushara County, Wisconsin, in 1892. His father, Seymour Ostrum, now deceased, was a farmer practically all his life in Waushara County. Harold Ostrum was educated in his native Town of Hancock, and in 1910 finished the course in the Academy at Endeavor, Wisconsin. With this education he entered the Bank at Hancock as bookkeeper, and had acquired a thorough and systematic knowledge of banking technique before he took part in the establishment of the Bancroft State Bank.

Mr. Ostrum is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge of Hancock and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1913 he married Miss Blanche Judd, daughter of J. M. Judd, of Endeavor, Wisconsin. They have one daughter, Ilah Margaret.

JOSEPH PATRICK KOZICKOWSKI. Portage County is one of the most cosmopolitan communities of Wisconsin, but the development of its forest covered lands and the improvement of its farms, the maintenance of its business enterprise and social institutions are probably the result of more effort and expenditure of time and energy on the part of the Polish people than could be ascribed to any other one racial spot. It is interesting to recall something of the first Polish family to settle in Polish County. A prominent representative of this family in the present generation is Joseph Patrick Kozickowski, who was born here and is a man of varied resources and influence, a farmer, stockman, business man, and a citizen upon whom the community can always rely for participation in any public spirited movement.

He was born in Sharon Township, on the farm he now owns in section 11, March 17, 1863. His parents were Michael Fen and Frances (Vonzelewska) Kozickowski. Both father and mother were natives of Poland, the father born September 11, 1811, and the mother December 4, 1818. They were married in the old country October 30, 1838, and after the birth of some of their children they left Poland on July 8, 1857, took passage on a sailing vessel at Hamburg, Germany, and landed in New York City September 4, 1857. In the same year they arrived in Portage County, and this constituted the vanguard of a great and noble body of citizens who have done so much to constitute this one of the most stable farming and industrial communities of Wisconsin. Their first home was in section 11 of Sharon Township where their son now resides. The father set a splendid example both for his children and for his fellow countrymen who arrived after him, and his industry enabled him to accumulate before his death, which occurred in 1882, at the age of seventy-one, more than 480 acres of land. The mother died September 17, 1905, aged eighty-eight. The father was a democrat and for several years served as chairman of the county board of supervisors and was honored with other local offices. He was also a member of the school board, and in that office he was in a position to do much for the educational affairs of the community. He was a man of fine education himself and had a fluent command of Polish, German, French, Latin and English. He contributed of his means to the support and

upbuilding of several of the early churches. He was one of the pioneer fruit growers in Portage County. Several years after coming here he sent back to his native land for the seed of apples and pears, planted them in his orchard, and developed a number of good trees. One of these old pear trees and one apple tree are still living and bearing fruit. Culture of pears is not generally practiced as far north as Portage County, and this venerable pear tree is one of the few found anywhere in the district. Its fruit is wonderfully sweet and is much superior to the native pears of America. The apples are a deep blood red color, and are also an exceptionally fine variety.

These pioneer Polish parents had a large family of children. Jozefina Serapina, the oldest, was born November 15, 1839; Franciezk Jondrzej was born December 29, 1841; Julia Marianna was born September 8, 1843; John Deidor was born May 11, 1845; Teofil Edimonde was born November 14, 1847; and Clementina Barbara was born November 27, 1849. After these came five other children, all of whom died in infancy. Then followed: Michael, born September 6, 1858; Marcelli, born November 11, 1860; Joseph Patrick, March 17, 1863; and Martha Cecelia, July 27, 1865.

Joseph Patrick Koziczowski grew up on the old homestead and has always lived there, though he spent about two winters logging in the lumber woods. He was educated in the public and parochial schools. In many ways his efforts have been rewarded and his generous prosperity is represented by the ownership of 520 acres, from which he recently sold forty acres. He has 200 acres in Sharon Township and 320 acres in Marathon County. Mr. Koziczowski has a fine family of children, is deservedly proud of them, and as they have never refused to do what he has asked of them to do he intends to do well by them. His efforts at accumulating land has been largely inspired by his purpose to provide good homes for the children. As a stockman he is one of the leading breeders in this county of pure blooded Avrshire cattle.

For fifteen years Mr. Koziczowski served as president of the Portage County Polish Fire Insurance Association. He has served as township supervisor and member of the school board, and in every other way has interested himself in those things that concern the community. In politics he is a democrat and with his family is a member of the Catholic Church.

January 12, 1892, he married Miss Frances Dzonowski, daughter of Nick and Josephine (Lipski) Dzonowski, who were also early settlers of Portage County. Her mother died here December 1, 1917, at the advanced age of eighty-one, and her father is now living at the age of seventy-five. Mrs. Koziczowski was born in Portage County January 1, 1873. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Koziczowski number nine: Frank, Eleanor A., Amelia, Florence, Edwin, Daniel, Stasia, Annie and Justin.

ADAM P. BENTLEY. While Portage County is no longer the great milling center it once was, large quantities of timber are worked up every year, and some important mills are found here and there about the county. One of them is in Sharon Township, operated by Mr. Adam P. Bentley. Mr. Bentley belongs to a pioneer family of woodsmen and lumber men in this state, and three generations have given their resources and enterprise to the development of Wisconsin.

Mr. Bentley was born in Sharon Township August 6, 1879, and is a son of the late Samuel Young Bentley and Maria (Prutzman) Bentley. His grandparents on both sides were also pioneers of the state. His paternal grandparents were Jesse and Harriet (Larson) Bentley, who came to Plainfield, Wisconsin, about 1850, where they spent the rest of their days. The maternal grandfather, David Prutzman, was also a pioneer at Plainfield. Samuel Young Bentley was born in Tioga County, Pennsylvania, October 22, 1832, and his wife was born in the same county January 10, 1835. The former was eighteen years old when he came to Wisconsin and was one of a large family of fifteen children. Samuel Y. Bentley and his brother George when young men began the operation of a shingle mill on Plover River in Portage County. George Bentley was born in Tioga County, Pennsylvania, October 17, 1827, and died April 12, 1917. He was a widely known and highly respected citizen of the county for many years. He married in Plainfield Maria Young, who was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, in 1833, and is still living in Marathon County. Their children were Eugene, William, Charles and Dora.

Samuel Young Bentley first brought his family to Sharon Township in 1863, and lived at a place known as Shantytown. Three years later he went back to Plainfield, but in 1869 established his home permanently in Sharon Township and lived here the rest of his days. In the spring of 1879 he moved to the farm now owned and occupied by his son Adam. He bought an old shingle mill, and rebuilt it and fitted it for the general manufacture of lumber. He was one of the largest owners of timber land in Wisconsin, having about 2,800 acres. He was a man of much enterprise, but quiet in his citizenship and beyond voting as a democrat aspired to no official place. His wife was a member of the Baptist Church. They were married in Plainfield, and were the parents of six children: Eva, who married Jacob Aultman; Flora, widow of John Campbell; Jefferson, who died at the age of three years; Nellie, widow of Daniel O'Connell; Stella, wife of Russell Spring; and Adam P.

Adam P. Bentley grew up on the old home farm, was educated in the public schools and also in the State Normal at Stevens Point and in a business college at the county seat. He was associated with his father until the latter's death and then succeeded to the lumber business. He owns about 1,800 acres of land, much of it covered with a good growth of timber, and is manufacturing large quantities of lumber every year. He is a republican voter.

Reference has already been made to Mr. Bentley's maternal grandparents, David and Polly (Fish) Prutzman. Both were natives of New York State. David Prutzman was born near Binghamton in Broome County in 1798 and his wife about 1799. David's father came from Germany and was a pioneer of New York State. After his marriage in his native state David Prutzman went to Pennsylvania, living in Tioga County and Bradford County, but in 1854 came west and settled at Plainfield, Wisconsin. He was one of the leading early settlers here, and lived the life of an active and prosperous farmer until his death in 1862, when sixty-four years of age. His wife died in the same month in the same year at about the same age. Near the Village of Plainfield David Prutzman acquired 160 acres of wild land, and before his death had cleared and under cultivation half of this

tract and had improved it with good buildings. He and his wife had ten children: Jefferson, Adam, Betsey, John, Emily, Charlotte, Maria, David, William and Louisa. These are all now deceased except Mrs. Maria Bentley.

On October 4, 1901, Adam P. Bentley married Miss Evelyn Brown, who was born in Sharon Township January 29, 1882, daughter of James A. and Mary (Pachin) Brown. Her father was born in Indiana and her mother near Plainfield, Wisconsin. Her father came to Portage County when a young man, married here, and was a surveyor, logger and farmer. He spent his last years on a farm in Sharon Township, where he died in 1895, at the age of forty-seven. Mrs. Bentley's mother died in 1892, aged thirty-three. Of their ten children eight are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Bentley had three children: Nellie, born July 16, 1902, now a student in the Stevens Point High School; Lloyd, born January 28, 1904; and Donald born April 13, 1908, and died April 29, 1916.

**ABRAM BRAWLEY.** Stevens Point does well to remember and cherish the memory of such a prominent citizen as the late Abram Brawley, and while one of the thoroughfares of the city is named Brawley Street that is not the only tangible evidence of the life and services of this pioneer. He vitally impressed himself upon the formative history of Portage County, and deserves to be ranked high among the founders of this fine County of Wisconsin.

He was born near Meadville, Pennsylvania, in 1813. He married in Virginia Miss Sarah Bennett, who was born at Morgantown in that old commonwealth in 1812. Abram Brawley was one of the first to develop the timber resources of Central Wisconsin. On coming to Portage County, which was then an almost unbroken wilderness, he located in Linwood and built one of the first saw mills that converted the great trees into merchantable lumber. Later he moved his home and industry to Stevens Point, and operated a saw mill for a number of years and also became one of the extensive land owners in this part of the state. He was honored in many ways by political dignities, and in the early times had charge of the United States Land Office at Stevens Point. He was an active democrat, and filled a number of local offices. He was also a member of the Masonic fraternity. He and Judge Ellis were the principal founders of the Episcopal Church at Stevens Point.

Though well advanced in years at the time Mr. Brawley enlisted for service in the Union Army during the Civil war, and when his term of enlistment was within two days of expiration he was unfortunately captured by the enemy and thrown into prison, where as a result of hardship and exposure he died in 1865. He also had two sons in the war, Jay and Benton.

Mr. and Mrs. Brawley had nine children, and three of them are still living. Jay Brawley is a resident of Stevens Point; Lucy, who was born in Portage County December 28, 1843, was reared and educated in Stevens Point, and before her marriage was a teacher. In 1873 she became the wife of Samuel A. Whitney. Mr. Whitney was born in New Brunswick November 7, 1843, and came to Portage County, Wisconsin, about 1866. He was in the logging industry and on the river for a number of years and subsequently engaged in farming. He finally moved from his farm in Eau Claire, and he and his

family now reside at 803 Ellis Street in Stevens Point. Mr. and Mrs. Whitney have had four children: John, Clyde, Irene and Lucy. Lucy is deceased and John, Clyde and Irene are all at home.

The third of the living children of the late Abram Brawley is Virginia, who married Lewis E. Bailey and lives in Chicago. She is the mother of four children, named Harry, Eugene, Jay and Queen.

JOHN A. ENNOR is a Portage County resident widely known over Wisconsin because of his exceptional talent in the artistic field. He is a photographer who learned his profession nearly forty years ago, has conducted studios and operated traveling photographic cars for many years, and is now especially well known in illustrated lecture work, and spends part of each year traveling as a platform entertainer.

Mr. Ennor was born in Apple River, Illinois, November 17, 1861. After getting his education in the public schools of his native town he went to work to learn photography when about seventeen years old. A few years later he was in business for himself, and after about ten years as a traveling photographer located at Neillsville, Wisconsin. In 1890 he came to Stevens Point and conducted one of the high class studios of the city until 1906. For some years he also operated a private photographic car, and in recent years has practically confined his business to illustrated lecture work. Mr. Ennor has had his home at 402 Fremont Street for the last twenty-two years. He is a republican in politics and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

In 1885 Mr. Ennor married Miss Sidney Woodward. She was born at Highland in Iowa County, Wisconsin, August 17, 1866, daughter of Thomas and Ann (Parry) Woodward. Her father was born in England in 1804 and her mother in Wales in 1831. Thomas Woodward had a half brother, Thomas Dolphin, who was at one time Speaker of the House of Commons in England. Thomas Woodward came to America when a young man and was a California forty-niner. He was married at Hyland, Wisconsin, and lived there as a farmer until his death in 1878. His widow lived at Hyland until about 1898, and spent the rest of her years in Stevens Point, where she died in 1912. Mrs. Ennor was one of four children: Thomas, deceased; Hannah; Sidney; and Emma, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Ennor have two very talented children, a daughter and a son. Mabel is a graduate of the State Normal School, also of the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music at Milwaukee, of the Chicago Musical College, and has taken other courses in the Chicago Art Institute and in the Columbia University. She is now teacher and supervisor of music and art in the public schools of Stevens Point. The son, LeRoy, was educated in the State Normal, studied music in Chicago, and has been a teacher of music. At the present time he is engaged in candy manufacture at Chicago.

ANTON RZEPINSKI. There need be no fear of Portage County falling behind in its volume of agricultural production as long as such men as Anton Rzepinski are active laborers in the field and managers in the county's different farms. Mr. Rzepinski has spent most of his life in Portage County, and for the past fifteen years has handled one of the good farms in Stockton Township, called Bear Lake Farm.

In 1903 he bought eighty acres there, and has since increased his place to 122 acres. Only thirty acres were in cultivation when he bought the land, and year after year he has added to the cleared area

until now eighty acres are capable of producing crops. One improvement after another has followed and his progressiveness as a farmer is well indicated by the substantial barn, 36 by 50 feet with 16-foot posts, which he had built in 1913, this being one of the modern barns with a basement under all. Another feature of progress is the silo 12 by 34 feet.

Mr. Rzepinski was born in Chicago, Illinois, January 22, 1878, son of Simon and Anna Rzepinski. His parents were both natives of German Poland, his father born in 1827 and his mother in 1848. Simon Rzepinski came to Illinois when a young man, married at Chicago, and afterwards came to Portage County, where he owned farm lands in both Jordan and Hull townships. He died there in 1887. He and his wife were members of the Catholic Church. Their five children, all still living, are Joseph, Felix, Anton, Frances and Mamie.

Anton Rzepinski was only two years old when his parents came to Portage County. He lived on the old homestead farm in Hull Township until nine years old and after the death of his father his mother married Albert Krutza. His mother had no children by her second marriage. She died in Buena Vista Township in 1915. Anton Rzepinski lived with his stepfather and mother until he was nineteen. In 1897 he married a daughter of his stepfather, Mary Krutza, who was born in German Poland December 4, 1877, daughter of Albert and Mary (Stanzel) Krutza. The parents came to Portage County in 1880, locating in Buena Vista Township on a farm. Albert Krutza and his first wife had the following children: Frances, Barbara, Gertrude, John, Mary, Martha, Leo and Albert. Albert Krutza is still living among his children at the age of seventy-three.

Mr. and Mrs. Rzepinski have eight children: Felix, John, Edward, Amelia, Frank, Catherine, Leo and Henry.

**MICHAEL O'KEEFE.** Stockton Township has given Michael O'Keefe practically every public honor within the keeping of the citizens, and those honors have been worthily bestowed, since Mr. O'Keefe is not only a good citizen but a man of great industry and ability as a farmer and business man in that community, where he has had his home since early childhood.

He was born in Canada April 3, 1854, and in the fall of the following year his parents, Mortimer and Mary (Doyle) O'Keefe, came to Portage County and settled in what was then Sharon now Stockton Township. His parents were both natives of Ireland, and were married in Canada. In Portage County Mortimer O'Keefe bought a tract of forty acres of raw land, and went through the arduous process of taming the soil and gradually increased his property until he had 160 acres of high class farming land. When the family came here they lived in a shanty, but later substantial buildings were erected. In the early days deer and all kinds of wild game were plentiful around the home, and in the tender recollections of Michael O'Keefe he recalls having seen deer in the woods of this county. Mortimer O'Keefe lived in Portage County over twenty years, and died January 3, 1877, at the age of sixty-three. His wife passed away April 22, 1875, at the age of fifty-two. Their children were John, Michael, Richard, Thomas, William, James, Mary, wife of Richard Curran, and Nora, who never married. The father was a democrat and a member of the Catholic Church.

Michael O'Keefe grew up on the old homestead, and was educated

in the local schools. He early put his strength to test as a worker in the woods and as a river man, and that arduous occupation he followed until he was about thirty years old. He then began farming, and is now owner of the 160 acres acquired and developed by his father more than sixty years ago, and also owns forty acres of marsh land in Dewey Township. Mr. O'Keefe manages his farm with great skill and credit, and is doing a good deal in the dairy line, having a good herd of grade Holsteins.

The official honors conferred upon him include practically all the offices within the gift of his fellow townsmen. He was township treasurer six years, township clerk four years, and has always been supervisor. He is a democrat and with his family a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church near Custer.

Mr. O'Keefe, like most people, well remembers his first day at school. It was a few weeks after he reached his sixth birthday. The date is fixed in his memory as May 7, 1860, by reason of the fact that the beginning of his own education coincided with the opening of the first school in the township, in district No. 11. There was another event in the same community on the same day. The home of Patrick and Margaret (Cullen) Loughlin was rejoicing over the birth of a baby daughter named Elizabeth. Childhood associations and mutual inclinations brought these young people much together in subsequent years and on June 25, 1884, they were married, beginning a companionship which has now continued for thirty-four years.

Mrs. O'Keefe is a daughter of Patrick and Margaret (Cullen) Loughlin, both of whom were born in Ireland and were married there. In 1847 they crossed the ocean to Canada, lived for about two years at Utica, New York, then returned to Canada and in 1853 settled in Portage County in section 28 of Sharon, now Stockton Township. Her father began with eighty acres of wild land, and subsequently added to his holdings until he had a farm of 320 acres, all substantially cleared and cultivated and improved with good buildings. He died there in 1885 at the age of seventy years, and his wife died at the home of her son Dennis Loughlin at Dorchester, Wisconsin, in 1906, at the age of eighty. Their children were: Mary, wife of John McGinley; Dennis; Margaret, who died at Custer December 31, 1916, wife of Patrick Ryan; Catherine, wife of Martin E. Lalley, of Rhinelander, Wisconsin; Elizabeth, Mrs. O'Keefe; Theresa, wife of George Woodworth, of California; and Martha, wife of Thomas Tribill, of Ironwood, Michigan.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. O'Keefe have been born five children. Clarence P., born June 27, 1886, was educated in the public schools and at Stevens Point Business College, and still lives at home and is now doing the duties of rural mail carrier. Robert M., born August 6, 1889, was educated in the public schools and developed a special talent for music by extended study of the violin at Marquette University in Milwaukee and the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. He is now working on the home farm. Margaret A., born February 15, 1892, has been educated in the public schools and the State Normal at Stevens Point. Michael Henry, born July 15, 1897, is a graduate of the Stevens Point High School and the State Normal School, and is now conducting a successful school in Carson Township. The youngest of the family, Walter Dennis, was born August 9, 1899, and died twelve days later.



FRED H. HUNTLEY, whose death was occasion for wide-spread regret in 1918, was a Portage County citizen concerning whose work and influence there is abundance of testimony as to their value in the community. Mr. Huntley spent most of his life in Portage County, and apart from the importance of his own career his name suggests the careers of several well known families, citizens of this section of the State.

Mr. Huntley was born at Mendon, St. Joseph County, Michigan, March 1, 1855, son of Frederick and Adaliza (Powers) Huntley. His father was born in New York State in 1825 and his mother in 1828. Frederick Huntley came to Michigan with his parents, Lentulus and Henrietta Huntley, who spent their last days in that State. Frederick was one of the following children: Herman, Solomon, Frederick, Ruth, Adaline, Elizabeth, Lyda, Jennie and Alvira.

Frederick Huntley died in 1890 and his wife in 1896. He was a member of the Masonic order and was also a local preacher of the Methodist Church. Both he and his wife were very devout members of that church. Frederick Huntley went to the California gold fields during the '50s and after some experience in the far West returned to Michigan and in 1856 brought his family to Portage County, locating in section 8 of Buena Vista Township, where his son Fred H. lived. He acquired eighty acres of land, then virtually a wilderness, and kept on prospering and developing his interests until he had about 320 acres. For twenty years he was postmaster of what was known as Buena Vista postoffice, keeping the mail in his own house. Later he conducted a store at Liberty Corners and kept the postoffice there. He was a republican voter, and for about eighteen years was chairman of the board in Buena Vista Township and was also chairman of the County Board for several years. Much of the political affairs of Portage County revolve around his name. For two terms during the '70s he represented the county in the State Legislature.

The children of Frederick and Adaliza Huntley were four in number. Harriet is the widow of Doctor Miner, formerly of Janesville and now of Milwaukee. The daughter Ora died when three years old. Fred was the third of the family. The youngest, Frank, is a farmer and married Miss Elva Fuller.

Fred H. Huntley grew up on the old home farm in Buena Vista Township, and lived in Portage County from the time he was about one year old. He was liberally educated, attending both the public schools of this county and also Lawrence University at Appleton, Wisconsin. Into his active career of forty years he compressed a great deal of substantial business achievement. For the most part he was a farmer, but also conducted a meat market on the south side of Stevens Point two years, spent three years with the Wisconsin Central Railway, and for twelve years represented the McCormick and International Harvester Companies. He finally returned to his farm in 1906, and besides the old homestead of eighty acres he had sixty acres, giving him a full complement of land for general agricultural purposes.

In politics he was a republican. While he never sought office he was appointed in 1915 township clerk, and the following year was regularly elected to the office. He was affiliated with the Equitable Fraternal Union.

On January 1, 1877, Mr. Huntley married Miss Jemima Jane Newby. Mr. and Mrs. Huntley had two children, Hattie Belle and

Letitia May. Hattie Belle, who was born July 28, 1879, was educated in the grammar and high schools of Stevens Point and was a teacher prior to her marriage to Fred Warde. Mr. and Mrs. Warde now live at Tenina, Washington, and their family consists of Lawrence Angus, Walter Huntley and Helen. Letitia May was born August 10, 1882, and is the wife of E. H. Rothman, a prominent and well known merchant of Stevens Point elsewhere referred to. Mr. and Mrs. Rothman have one child, Philip.

Mrs. Fred H. Huntley was born in Canada May 25, 1855, and is member of a family that has been long and prominently known in Portage County. Her parents were George Campbell and Elizabeth Martha (Russell) Newby. Her paternal grandparents were Thomas and Deborah (West) Newby. Thomas Newby was born in Yorkshire, England, and when twenty years of age crossed the Atlantic to Nova Scotia and lived in Canada until the death of his wife. In 1855 he came as a pioneer to Portage County and lived in Buena Vista Township until his death in 1877, at the advanced age of ninety years. He and his wife had the following children: John, William, Anna, George Campbell, Esther, Thomas, Mary Jane and Jemima, who is the only one of that generation still living.

George Campbell was born in Canada July 5, 1830. He married in that country Miss Elizabeth Martha Russell, who was born in Vermont December 18, 1836. Her parents were James and Eliza (Shannon) Russell, both natives of Ireland, her father born May 10, 1807, and her mother November 13, 1806. Both were natives of County Tyrone, and after their marriage they came to America and located in Vermont, going thence to Canada, and finally coming to the United States and locating in Iowa, where Eliza Russell died in 1857. James Russell finally moved to Portage County, Wisconsin, and died at Keene in Buena Vista Township in 1879. The children of James Russell and wife were: Margaret and Samuel, twins; George, who was born on the banks of Newfoundland; Sophia Jane; Elizabeth Martha; Mary Ann; and Sarah Jane. Sarah Jane Russell, who now lives at Keene in Buena Vista Township, is a remarkable old lady, and for forty years has kept a store at Keene, though she is now about to retire on account of age. She was born in Vermont April 17, 1840, and in 1880 she married Thomas Newby, an uncle of Mrs. Huntley. Thomas Newby was born in Canada July 2, 1834, and married for his first wife Miss Jane Armstrong. The children of their marriage were Margaret, William, John and Rachel, besides one that died in infancy. Thomas Newby was a carpenter by trade. In order to secure employment at his occupation he came to Portage County in 1877. His first wife died in Canada in 1878 and two years later he married Miss Russell. Mrs. Thomas Newby owns a good property at Keene, including a store building and a farm of sixty acres. Her husband was a republican and a Free Mason and Orangeman and died in 1902. He served as postmaster at Keene and his wife was assistant and after his death she took the duties of the office and the management of the store. The postoffice there was abandoned two years later. Mrs. Thomas Newby has had a birthday celebration every year since she was seventy, and on April 7, 1918, eighty-four guests gathered to do her honor, and all these celebrations have attracted a large concourse of her friends and admirers.

The story now returns to Mrs. Huntley's parents, George C. Newby

and wife, who in the fall of 1855 invaded the wilderness of Portage County and settled in Buena Vista Township. In this region George C. Newby acquired 140 acres, and while it was totally wild when he first took it, it was cleared and made into a comfortable rural home, improved with good buildings and highly productive fields. He died here March 8, 1907, and his wife passed away April 14, 1902. He was a republican in politics but never sought any office. His wife was a member of the Methodist Church. Mrs. Huntley was the second in a family of eleven children. Her brothers and sisters are given the following brief record. Margaret Ann, born April 17, 1853, is the wife of Mark A. Woodberry, of Minneapolis. Thomas was born March 11, 1857. Harriet was born March 6, 1859. Letitia was born December 18, 1860, and died in 1879 as the wife of Charles Stuart. Eli died at the age of two years and six months. Charles was born September 9, 1866, and further reference to him is made on other pages of this work. Bell Joanna was born May 8, 1868, and is the wife of John Springer. Cora Ann, born April 9, 1870, is the wife of William Fisher, of Stevens Point. William R. was the tenth child and is referred to more at length in following paragraphs. The youngest of the family was Mabel, who was born December 10, 1876, and is the wife of B. A. Benson, of Glenwood, Minnesota.

William R. Newby, brother of Mrs. Huntley, was born February 20, 1872, and now owns the old Newby homestead of 120 acres in Buena Vista Township. He is a successful general farmer, has been a member of the school board and votes consistently as a republican. He married Lettie Cornell, who was born in Chautauqua County, New York, April 27, 1873, daughter of Willard and Jane (Whitford) Cornell. Willard Cornell was born in New York State December 20, 1834, and his wife March 8, 1839. They came to Waushara County, Wisconsin, in 1878, and in 1882 located in Portage County, in Pine Grove Township. Later they sold their farm there and moved to Wood County, having a farm a mile from Grand Rapids, the county seat. This property was also sold, and Willard Cornell spent his last days in Buena Vista Township, where he died February 13, 1909. His widow is still living in that township. They had two children, Seward, who died in 1903, at the age of forty-four, and Lettie, wife of William R. Newby. Mr. and Mrs. William R. Newby have the following children: Benjamin Eli, born June 28, 1897, was educated in the public schools and the Stevens Point Business College, and is now a bookkeeper for the Wisconsin Light and Heat Company of Berlin, Wisconsin; Bessie L., born July 14, 1899, is a graduate in the rural course from the State Normal at Stevens Point in the class of 1917 and is now conducting a successful school in Buena Vista Township; Guy Orville, born May 19, 1902, a student in the Bancroft High School; and Esther Evelyn, born April 16, 1906.

JOSEPH LASZEWSKI is one of the live men of Hull Township to whom the citizens of that locality are indebted for much of the enterprise and the mercantile and industrial facilities centered at Casimer. His fellow citizens have again and again shown their utmost confidence and trust in Mr. Laszewski in electing him to many offices, and he is busied with the handling of many responsible affairs.

He was born in Hull Township March 26, 1879, son of John and Josephine Laszewski. His parents were both natives of German

Poland, his father born in 1841 and his mother in 1844. In 1872 they came to Portage County and settled in Hull Township, where the father acquired 400 acres of wild land. He had the industry, skill and patience to develop much of this by clearing and improvement, and late in life he divided his ample farm among his children and is now living with his son Joseph retired. Politically he is a republican, and for many years was one of the local road commissioners. He is a member of the Polish Catholic Church and various Polish societies. John Laszewski and wife had ten children: Michael, Jacob, John, Joseph, Anton, Leo, Peter, Martha, Anna and Frank, all still living except Frank.

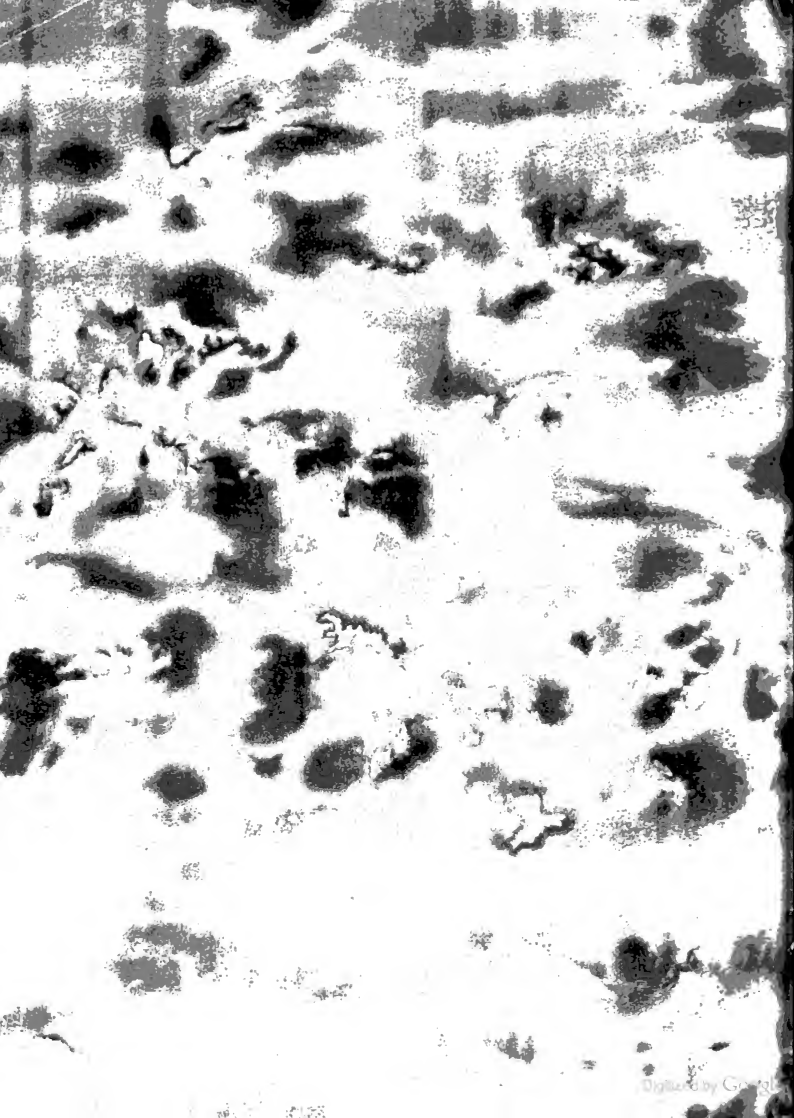
Joseph Laszewski grew up on the old homestead farm, and was educated both in the parochial and public schools. Farming was his first occupation and still claims a share of his energies. He owns forty acres of the old homestead. In 1912 he broadened his efforts in the direction of merchandising when he established a store at Casimer in Hull Township. Besides this store he conducts a saw mill, operates a threshing outfit during the season, and in 1918 he added to the industrial resources of the village of Casimer by establishing a steam factory and a potash factory.

His record of public service equals his success in business. He served seven years as supervisor and for the past six years has been chairman of the township board. He is also treasurer of the local school board and chairman of the County Poor Committee and is also director of the Polish Fire Insurance Association and local agent for the Northwestern Accident and Health Association. Mr. Laszewski is a republican in politics and has been very loyal to the party. He is a member of the Polish Catholic Church.

January 26, 1903, he married Miss Martha Rutta, who was born in Hull Township March 3, 1882, daughter of Jacob and Mary Rutta. Her parents came from Poland in 1876 and settled on farming land in Hull Township. Mr. and Mrs. Rutta had five children named John, Solomon, Mary, Martha and Edward. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Laszewski, seven in number, all living, are Bernice, Regina, Teddy, Anna, Frances, Eddie, and Earl.







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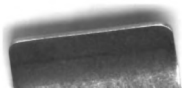


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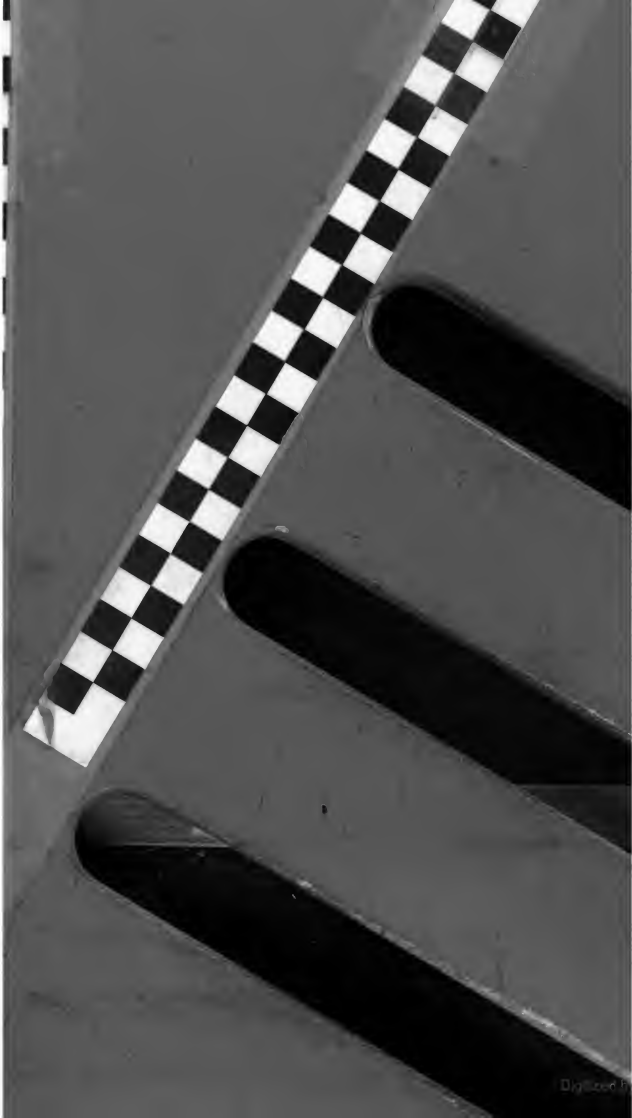




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